

Granite City Journal

MEMBER: SUBURBAN NEWSPAPERS OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

Volume 12, Number 20

Circulation Audited and Certified By 1815 Delmar 877-7700

Wednesday, May 18, 1988

108

4 Sections, 28 Pages

TWENTY CENTS



FLAMES RAGE OUT OF CONTROL Monday south of Eagle Park Acres off Illinois 203.

(Staff photos by Jack C. Ventimiglia)

'No man's land' fire not fought

By Mike Myers
Staff writer

EAGLE PARK — A towering cloud of smoke that could be seen for 25 miles caused drivers on Illinois 203 to use headlights Monday afternoon, but no firemen would respond.

Despite pleas from the Illinois State Police, despite pleas from persons whose property was turning to ashes, an area including hog pens is a "no man's land" when it comes to fire districts. Firemen came only to ascertain that it wasn't their problem.

"That's our place, right where you see all the flames," Mary Pittman said. "We've already lost some hogs and had to turn the rest loose. The fire keeps on burning and my husband won't leave."

"He won't leave. There are times when we go without bread ourselves for the hogs. That's

our life. There are human beings at stake."

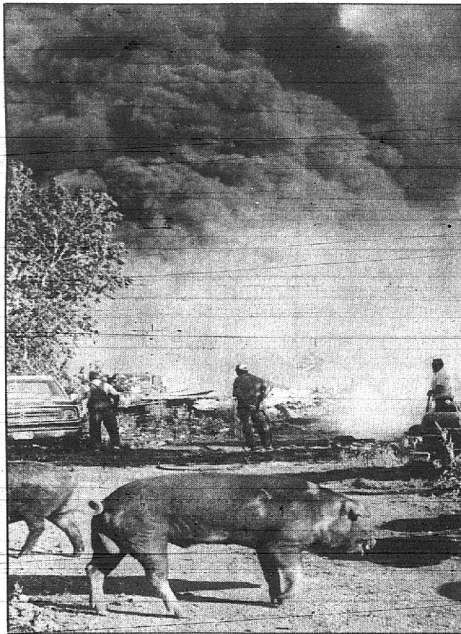
Pittman picked up a plank, looking back down the road at the fire, the hogs running and squealing, piglets running back and forth between sows, people shouting and trying to control the flames with spiced garden hose.

She started to swing the plank, as if to strike something, then hesitated. Instead, she used it to lean on. In tears, she looked away.

Ossie Lee, Pittman's daughter, said that when the fire started they ran to the highway and tried to get help. The state police, she said, tried calling all the nearby fire departments but none of them would come.

The hog pens are located along the west side of 203, south of Harrison Street and outside Madison city limits. Although no permanent residences are off-

(See FIRE, Page 8A)



QUICK ACTION is taken to save livestock from fire.

PIGS APPEAR UNAWARE of impending danger.

TIF Commission adds members

By Valerie Evenden
Staff writer

PONTON BEACH — Mayor Glen Wilson, Village Clerk Mary Warren and Edgar Patrick, a member of the Pontoon Beach Public Water District Board, were added to the newly created Tax Increment Financing Commission at Tuesday's meeting of the Village Board of Trustees.

An ordinance also was adopted officially creating the commission and setting the number of years each appointed member will serve.

At the board's April 26 meeting, Wilson appointed Village Trustee Louis Whitsett, Bob Abel and Robert Vincent, and Don McNew, village zoning administrator, to the commission.

Keith Jensen, village attorney, will serve as TIF Commission attorney. Terms to be served by com

(See TIF, Page 8A)

BAC hopes to resolve contract policy

By Rick Arnold
Staff affiliate

BELLEVILLE — Major personnel changes at Belleville Area College apparently have been put on hold until the college's board of trustees approves a new contract policy for administrators.

The board expected to take action on personnel changes at a May 11 special meeting, but no vote was taken because it was obvious a four-vote majority was not going to be obtained, trustee Ted Farmer said after the meeting.

Trustee Van Smith did not attend the special meeting because the McKendree College baseball team, for which he is a coach, was in the state playoffs.

Farmer had called for the removal of Robert Eskridge, president of the Red Bud campus, and Kathy O'Dell, BAC's community relations director. Interim Chancellor B.J. Davis had also recommended to the board the elimination of four positions.

Davis declined to identify the

positions.

The board probably will not take any action on personnel matters, it was indicated, until it approves a policy concerning the length of administrative contracts, a frequent subject of discussion.

Administrators have always been offered multi-year contracts but some trustees want to adopt a policy of only one-year contracts so the board would have more control over personnel matters.

"I don't want more than a 12-month period of duty. It's that simple," said trustee Larry Reinbeck, who has opposed multi-year contracts since he joined the board in 1985. "I think we have a legal responsibility to maintain control," he said.

Trustee Dan Wolford, who spent 20 years as assistant principal of Belleville West High School, said he always worked with a one-year contract and said administrators at four-year colleges do the same.

"I think any administrator

worth his salt will take a one-year contract," Wolford said.

Davis, superintendent of the Granite City School District for 18 years, 1966-84, said that although he also worked on one-year contracts, high school administrators receive tenure after working at the school a certain number of years.

Davis said 30 BAC administrators have two-year contracts, four vice presidents have three-year contracts, and 15 administrators have one-year contracts. The contracts of administrators working in grant-funded programs are dependent on the length of the grant contract, Davis said.

At the St. Louis Community Colleges, after three years of service all administrators receive three-year contracts if they are evaluated favorably, a college spokeswoman said.

Larry Schmalenberger, BAC's vice chancellor of administrative services, said administrators are eligible for multi-year contracts after four years at BAC.

Reviews and previews

Police chief will leave

Granite City Police Chief Bob Astorian will leave his job July 1 to direct Probation and Court Services in Madison County. In his new post, Astorian will direct more than 75 people who administer programs for juvenile detention, juvenile and adult probation, and court supervision. Chief Judge P.J. O'Neill made the appointment last week. Astorian has been police chief since July 21.

Nameoki opposes rate hike

The Nameoki Board of Trustees approved a resolution opposing a proposed electric rate increase by Illinois Power Co., despite objections by Trustee Norm Hall, an IP employee, who called the move a political ploy. The power company is requesting a rate increase each year for the next 10 years to help meet costs of the Clinton nuclear plant. Hall said other trustees were trying to gain popularity with the resolution and that the Clinton power plant is necessary.

St. Louis Symphony comes to area

The St. Louis Symphony will perform at 7:30 p.m. June 14 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows through the sponsorship of the Suburban Journals, Belleville Area College and the Southwestern Illinois Tourism and Convention Bureau. Prices will range from \$3 to \$5. For tickets, persons may call 1-800-BAC-5131, Ext. 258 or 442.

50 years ago

Monday, May 16, 1938

A local chapter of the Quill and Scroll, a national organization of journalism students, was instituted at the high school Saturday evening. Ten new members were initiated in a candlelight ceremony attended by more than 100 students and guests.

Tell it like it is

Q: Do you think public hearings by the Illinois Commerce Commission, such as the one in Granite City on electricity costs, have any effect on utility rate decisions?

Helen Hawkins

"Yes, I definitely feel that with such a large crowd it would have an effect on utility rate decisions. The Commerce Commission does pay attention to those kinds of crowds. I don't believe they'll get all they asked for, but Illinois Power probably will get some of the increase."

—Angela Drive

Wayne Hurocy

"I say yes. I think it's unfair we should have to pay higher utility rates."

—Edison Avenue

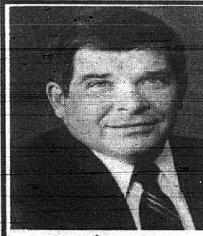
NEXT WEEK What do you think about Mayor Von Dee Cruise's decision to hire his son-in-law at the Granite City Regional Treatment Plant?

To record your answer, phone 452-0222 between 5:30 p.m. and 8 a.m. daily. Leave your name, address and phone number for verification.

Quote of the week

"Getting a clergyman to say, 'I need help,' is very tough," said former PTL leader Richard Dortch during a stop in Granite City, where he grew up before becoming embroiled in the Jim Bakker-Jessica Hahn scandal. "They're (ministers) supposed to have all the answers."

Tip of the hat



Paul Raczkiewicz

Chief officer

Paul Raczkiewicz gets the Journal's tip of the hat for being named chief operating officer at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in addition to his previous title of executive vice president. Raczkiewicz, an SEMC employee for 16 years, is also active with the Tri-Cities Area Chamber of Commerce and Granite City Rotary Club and has been a division fund drive chairman for the Tri-Cities Area United Way.

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Deaths

Mary Burton
George Dickman
Eugene Gargie Sr.
Lorin Hessel Sr.
Nelle Jackson
Mildred Neethan
George Retsinger
Ruth Robertson
Leona Spickard
Chloe Venable



Glad to see POWER attendance

To the editor:

As a member of the POWER Committee (People Opposed to Wild Electricity Rates), I would like to thank all the Democratic precinct committeemen and others who worked so diligently to get an overwhelmingly large crowd to attend the Illinois Commerce Commission public hearing concerning the additional 50 percent-plus rate increase that has been proposed by Illinois Power.

The POWER Committee would especially like to thank Thomas and Terri Wilcott, owners of Dupli-Print, who once again donated long hours and supplies for all the flyers. That same special thanks goes to all our State Officials and local people who

also helped by working together to make the rate increase hearing the best attended hearing ever.

As the Press-Record so cleverly put it, we did indeed have a show-down at the "OK Corral." The Commerce Commission made it very clear that they do care about what the common man thinks. Within a few months, we will know if they really do care. However, eight pages of lists of people who wished to testify at the hearing were misplaced, and this situation is being investigated. It might have been interesting if all who registered to testify had been allowed to do so.

Whatever the outcome, there are not enough words to express our sincere thanks to those who

worked so hard together. The American spirit is still alive in Granite City and her surrounding area.

The POWER Committee is a group of volunteers who organized last year to work with the Citizens' Utility Board (CUB), and the Illinois Public Action Committee (IPAC), and our state officials concerning this serious, rapidly growing problem of rate increases which not only affect the older folks and the poor, but all of us from all walks of life. We are people who care about other people, especially those who cannot fight for themselves!

HELEN HAWKINS
POWER Committee member
Nameoki Township

Favors segregating AIDS students

To the editor:

People are entitled to their own opinion. Just because their opinion is not the same as yours, doesn't mean their I.Q. is low or they are stupid.

I don't see why we can't put children with AIDS-related complex in a building of their own or their safety — not because

of danger from picketers — because of the risk of viruses, cold and childhood diseases.

The picketers were not out there to hurt anyone or to scare anyone. They are fighting for their rights as Americans, for our children and children with AIDS-related complex.

We need more in-depth research. This disease isn't the

flu! The researchers aren't sure how it can be spread and they contradict one another. They should do research until they are 100 percent sure.

Everyone has rights no matter what color, what sex, if you're sick or in good health. Isn't that what America is all about?

DARLA EAVON
The Picketers

'Slow motion murder' refers to cigarettes

By Prof. F. Henry Firsching
SIUE School of Sciences

About 10 years ago, the term, "Slow Motion Suicide," was proposed by the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare in the Carter Administration to describe cigarette smoking.

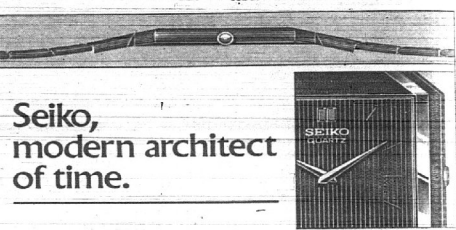
There is a logical reason for such a term. It refers to the accumulation of damage that a smoker causes to his own body by smoking. A smoker often smokes about 40 cigarettes a day, for 365 days a year, and for 20, 30 and 40 years duration. In a sense, the smoker is ever so slowly killing himself. Hence the term "Slow Motion Suicide."

"Slow Motion Murder" is a variation of the same theme. Non-smokers can also suffer damage from the smoke and gaseous molecules generated by the smoker. This slow damage to the non-smoker can also accumulate from repeated and prolonged contact with the second-hand smoke of the smoker. Considerable statistical information has been collected regarding this aspect of smoking. It all indicates that the "Slow Motion Murder" concept is correct.

When the wives of smokers and the wives of non-smokers are compared, the wives of smokers have a noticeably shorter average life span. In one study, the wives of smokers died

about four years sooner than the wives of non-smokers. There is no doubt that a husband's smoking causes a significant loss of life expectancy for his non-smoking wife.

Most non-smokers consider smoking an assault on their being, on their good health, on their very lives. Non-smokers have nothing to gain from smoking and potentially everything to lose.



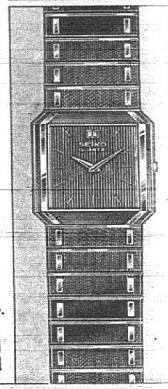
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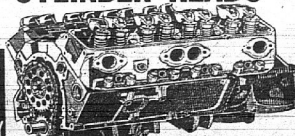
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Quad City

Moose Lodge installs new governor

GRANITE CITY — Frank Woods was installed as governor of Granite City Moose Lodge 272 in ceremonies held in April at the Moose Lodge Home, 19th and Adams streets.

Bill Masters, a past governor, served as installing governor. Dinner was served after the ceremonies to 167 members and guests. Dancing followed.

The retiring governor is Richard Hasty.

Installed with Woods for 1988-89 were:

Robert Taylor, junior governor;

nor; Carl Zimmer, prelate; Vernon Johnson, treasurer; Robert Thebeau, two-year trustee; Tim Vandaveer, three-year trustee; and John Besserman, who remains on the board of officers as a one-year trustee.

Also installed were appointed officers, including John Carpenter, sergeant-at-arms; Robert "Bob" Young, inner guard; and Floyd "Foe Wee" Miller, outer guard.

Woods, who also will head the Conservation Committee, announced his appointments to

other committee chairmanships for the lodge's new year. They include:

Bob Taylor, membership; Jim Hill and Vandaveer, investigation; Bob Thebeau, civic affairs and public relations; Merton Castellini, lodge calendar; Jim Tadlock, ritual; Larry Arnold, sports; Virgil Singler, entertainment and Moose services; Harold Harris, auditing; Bill Masters, bingo; and Ben Voyles, kitchen.

Bi-State plans to raise fares

Public hearings on higher Bi-State Development Agency's bus fares and passes are scheduled later this month.

The changes, the first in six years, would go into effect July 1 in Missouri.

Fares in Illinois may be adjusted as determined by the Illinois transit districts of St. Clair and Madison counties, which contract for Bi-State service in Illinois. At present, the districts provide a reduced fare on local routes of 50 cents, rather than the 75-cent fare charged in Missouri.

Two public hearings will be held in Illinois at 7 p.m. May 25. One will be held in the St. Clair County Government Center Board Meeting Room B-364, 10 Public Square, Belleville. The second meeting will be in the Madison County Court House Board Room, 155 N. Main St., Edwardsville.

Another proposed change would be an unlimited-use monthly permit that would require an additional 25 cents cash drop on local routes or 50 cents on express routes, with no charge for transfers.

Based on Bi-State's Missouri rates, it is proposed that adult local fares be increased to 85 cents. Adult express fares would increase to \$1.15. Children's local fares would increase to 40 cents with express fares increasing to 55 cents. Elderly or disabled persons would pay 40 cents for local or express service. Transfers for adults and children would increase a nickel to 15 cents but would continue to be free for elderly or disabled persons. Illinois local fares may be adjusted as determined by the Illinois Transit Districts.

IP giving credits

The Illinois Power Co. is crediting \$23 million to residential customers' summer bills to limit the impact of higher summer rates, which go into effect next month. The rate increases posted by the company have resulted in widespread public criticism.

For an Illinois Power customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month during the four-month summer billing season, the credit results in a total savings of \$60 or 14 percent. Customers will receive a credit of 1.5 cents per kilowatt-hour on the four monthly bills beginning June 15 and ending about Sept. 15, by which time the \$23 million is expected to be fully

credited to customers.

The program, approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission last November, is intended to serve as a temporary measure while the ICC considers the company's proposal to balance the sharp difference between winter and summer rates.

"We hope the reduction on electric bills this summer will help lessen the problems experienced by our customers last summer," said William C. Eastman, Illinois Power Co.'s director of customer relations. "We still would encourage our customers to look into our Budget Billing Plus program as a way to even out seasonal bills."

Price memorial fund started

A Melvin Price Memorial Fund has been started at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

University President Earl Lazerson said the documents, letters and other papers of the late congressman are being presented by Price's wife to the university.

Price, a 22-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives, died April 22. He was 83.

"Congressman Price, a lifetime friend and supporter of Southwestern Illinois, wished for his papers to be accessible to citizens of this region," Lazerson said. "SIUE is pleased to have been chosen by Congressman and Mrs. Price as the repository for information reflecting 43 years of his work in the United States Congress. The university is also pleased to establish a

memorial fund for those who wish to honor Mr. Price."

The Melvin Price Memorial Fund will support student scholarships in the name of the late congressman and will help sustain the establishment of the Price repository at the university.

Price was the sponsoring congressman for designation of SIUE as a Congressional Depository Library in 1959 at the East St. Louis Residence Center, six years before the main campus opened. In October 1987, the library celebrated the addition of the 500,000th U.S. government document to the collection.

"The Price papers are invaluable in providing a rich, historical repository of documents covering major events in the second half of the 20th century," Lazerson said.

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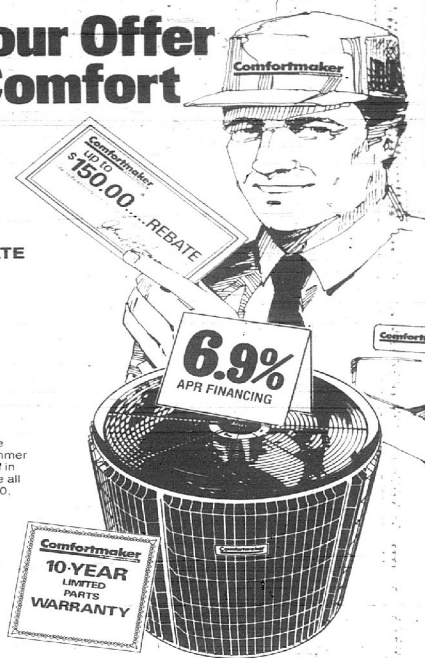
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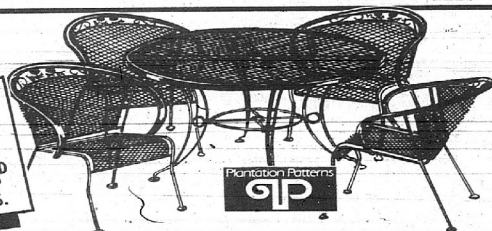
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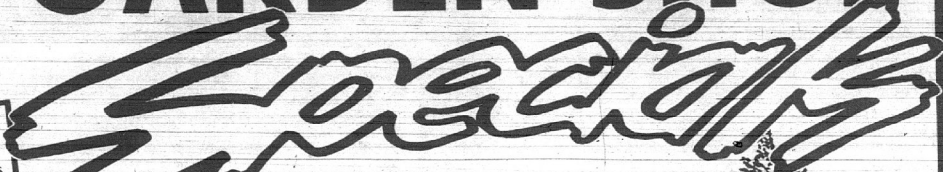
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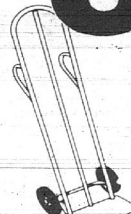
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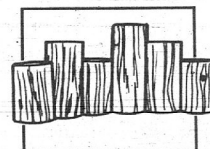


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CENTRAL HARDWARE

State flunking on lawyer discipline

By Edward T. Hearn
P-RJ Washington bureau

WASHINGTON — Illinois was one of 22 states which received straight Ds and Fs in a new report card study of state agencies that supervise disciplinary actions against lawyers.

The survey was made by HALT, a legal reform organization.

HALT, in its "People's Bar Exam," asked the state agencies whether they abided by 21 key criteria for determining the openness of their systems for dealing with lawyers who have been reported for misconduct.

Illinois' Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission drew three Fs and two Ds in five categories listing the 21 criteria. Thirteen states out of the 33 that responded received three or more Fs.

Kentucky, with 5 Fs, was the lowest ranked; Oregon and Washington were the highest ranked with a cumulative rating of C and C, respectively.

Kay Ostberg, a spokeswoman for the Washington-based group, said the survey results showed that many states kept records about incompetent and unethical lawyers out of public reach, and failed to protect consumers.

Ostberg said HALT is concerned with making the legal system simpler, more affordable and more equitable.

In 1986, the 3,000-member Illinois State Bar Association in Springfield — a voluntary organization unrelated to the state ARDC — received 4,535 complaints.

Of the complaints, 393 were from St. Clair County, 340 from Madison County, 29 from Monroe County and 10 from Bond County, a bar association spokeswoman said.

Among the reasons the Illinois commission flunked the survey were its policies of closing disciplinary hearings to the public, issuing secret reprimands, and imposing "gag" rules that threaten clients with contempt of court if they disclose information related to the complaints.

Other reasons the HALT study

cited were the commission's failure to advertise in the Yellow Pages, maintain an 800 toll-free telephone number or publish notices of discipline in general circulation newspapers.

HALT gave failing grades to the overwhelming majority of states. Oregon — the survey's best performer — was one of only two states to receive an A in any category.

Oregon and Washington were applauded for giving the most public access to records, including publishing the number of complaints against a lawyer, the basis of the complaints, the agency's hearing records and the lawyer's discipline records.

The Illinois ARDC, supervised by the state Supreme Court, publishes an annual report disclosing the number of complaints, reprimands, disbarments, suspensions and censures, said ARDC deputy administrator Jerry Larkin, who declined to discuss the survey.

"We account for every dime and for every investigation," he said.

Larkin said that while the court requires some proceedings involving lawyers to be kept secret, he said the 15-year-old agency follows guidelines that attempt to report fully the results of disciplinary boards.

In 1987, the Illinois ARDC got 4,886 complaints about licensed lawyers. Five lawyers were reprimanded, 34 disbarred, 39 suspended and 10 censured, Larkin said. Illinois has 50,635 licensed lawyers, he said.

The HALT survey tested ARDC policy in the following categories: whether the commission is subject to public oversight; whether it allows public access to its proceedings; whether it makes disciplinary records public; whether it encourages clients to file complaints; and whether its process is fair and responsive.

The ARDC got D grades in the open records and public access categories.

It got Fs on oversight, client complaints and responsiveness.

Discriminating law fought

State Sen. Sam Vadalabene, D-Edwardsville, said May 6 that legislation freeing Illinois from a federal law that prohibits diabetes from operating motor carriers in intrastate commerce has passed the Illinois Senate Transportation Committee.

The legislation would affect only operators who are already licensed.

Vadalabene said that two years ago 500 to 1,000 Illinoisans were affected when the Legislature passed a bill adopting the federal provisions and applied them to intrastate commerce.

"Senate Bill 1654 would allow those diabetics to continue to be

employed as motor carrier operators if they hold a valid motor carrier operators license, have no other disabling health-related problems, and who have no record of accidents which would indicate a lack of ability to operate a motor carrier in a safe manner."

"In passing the previous legislation, we were taking away the livelihood of hundreds of individuals whose 'disability' had not impaired their careers," Vadalabene said.

The legislation now goes to the Senate floor for further consideration.

United Way given software

Ashton-Tate, an independent microcomputer software company, is donating almost 20,000 units of its software programs nationwide through a Gifts in Kind program.

The Tri-Cities Area United Way received 10 Ashton-Tate software packages for redistribution to local charities.

"We are delighted to make this contribution through Gifts in Kind," said Lydia Dobyns, Ashton-Tate vice president of marketing. "It is our hope these

products will assist non-profit organizations as they endeavor to serve their communities across the country."

The Gifts in Kind program encourages gifts of products, goods, and services to voluntary service organizations as a supplement to financial support.

Local agencies to receive the Ashton-Tate software are: the Visiting Nurse Association, Co-Ordinated Youth Services, River Bluffs Girl Scout Council, Piassa Health Care, Children's Home and Aid Society, and the Tri-Cities Area United Way.

Garage sale set

The 10th District of the Illinois Nurses Association will sponsor a garage sale from noon until 7 p.m. Friday, May 20, and from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, May 21, at 316 Bauer Lane, Maryville.

The site may be reached by driving three-fourths mile south of the intersection at Illinois 159 and 162, then turning right onto Bauer at the Chang Medical Center.

Mine worker to speak

The public is invited to a meeting Thursday, May 19, at the United Steelworkers of America Local 67 Union Hall, 2334 E. 25th St.

Paul Smith is a UMWA member with information about the 1984-85 strike against the Leslie Coal Company in Sidney, Ky.

May 18, 1988 — GRANITE CITY JOURNAL

5A

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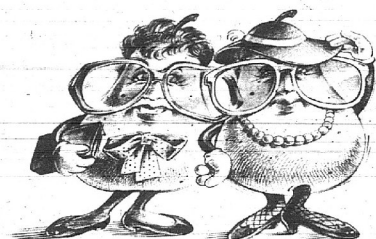
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School

Parents may seek pupil transportation payment

By law, parents and guardians are entitled to state reimbursement for qualifying transportation expenses paid during a school year.

Those who must provide transportation to and from school because free transportation is not available for their children may be eligible to receive money from Illinois to help offset some of the cost.

For example, bus fares may be repaid, or the mileage reimbursement for private automobiles at 22.5 cents per mile, Harry A. Briggs Jr., Madison County regional superintendent of schools, said. He added:

"If you can answer yes to the following five questions for the 1987-88 school year, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for providing transportation."

- 1) Was the pupil under the age of 21 at the close of the school year?
- 2) Was he or she a full-time student in grades kindergarten through 12?
- 3) Did the pupil live one and a half miles or more from the school attended?
- 4) Did the pupil attend a school within Illinois which met Illinois compulsory attendance laws?

5) Did the parent/guardian incur transportation expenses resulting from transporting the pupil to and from school?

"If you answered yes to the above questions, lived in Illinois and want to file a claim, you must go to the school where each of your children is enrolled by June 30 to complete a claim application," Briggs said.

Class seeks members

The June Class of 1988 is planning its 30th-year reunion to be held July 23 at Sunset Hills Country Club.

If anyone has not been notified or if they know where the following are, call Linetta Jarrard, 931-4883.

Those sought are: Gary Abernathy, Paul Appenbrink, Michael Brockus, Jerry Bunch, Donald Burnett, Robert Chapman, Kenneth Crick, Donald Lee Davidson, Patricia Farmer, Rebecca Gloré Henke, Alice Kay Green,

John Harding, Gloria Hornberger Wofford, Donald Howard, Wilma Hill, Robert Hyams, Leonard Jones.

Sandra Lilly Trapp, Sheri Little Garber, Sue McDonald Hamlett, Nicholas Miller, Judy Nesbitt Miller, Donna Noblin, Thomas Nowak, Brenda Peddicord, Rae Putnam Trimmer, Betty Sedabres Iolas, Laverne Sorenson, Shirley Vayette, Connel Willard, and Delores Wright Martin.

Madison student wins national award

The United States Achievement Academy has announced that Madison High School junior Nicole Royston has been named a national award winner in speech and drama.

The academy recognizes less than 10 percent of all American high school students. Royston, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hancher and granddaughter of Alex Williams, was nominated for the award by Flor Van Koten, an English teacher at the high school. Royston will appear in the United States Achievement Academy Official Yearbook, published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Achievement Academy award winners should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said George Stevens, executive director of the academy.

The academy selects USAA winners based on the recommendations of teachers, coaches, counselors or other school sponsors and on standards of selection set by the academy. The criteria are a student's academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude, cooperative spirit and dependability.



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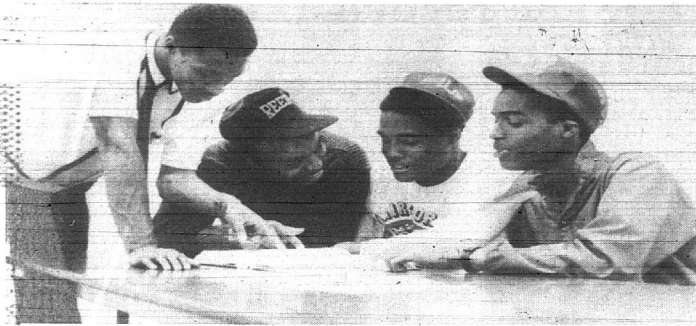
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IT ALL ADDS UP Oliver Walker (left) of Madison tutors fellow Granite City Campus of Belleville Area College students in mathematics. He reviews an assignment with (from left) Otis Ware, Hubert Kontz and Avery Ware, all of Madison.

Walker cleans up for math team

Oliver Walker is the Tom Brunansky of mathematics for Granite City Campus students of Belleville Area College.

He plays the clean-up spot, tutoring fellow students who are in need of help with developing a matrix, calculating a hypothesis, or finding a variable.

For his hard work and personable manner, Walker has been named recipient of an Outstanding Student Worker Award. A special plaque goes with the honor.

Walker said people are fearful of the words used in mathematics. "The terminology causes math anxiety," he said.

Tutoring assistance is a free service offered by the college to students. Walker has regular posted hours when students can get individual help.

"People give up too easily," he said. "You've got to look at the examples and listen to the

lectures. It's important to keep trying and think it through."

Most of the students Walker works with are in their mid-20s, five or six years older than the tutor, but that doesn't faze Walker.

Tutoring provides him with constant review of math formulas, too.

"I like to keep my mind refreshed on what I have learned," he said. "As long as a person is able to learn, I can teach."

"I've known I was good in math since way back when," he said. "My grandmother and dad motivated me."

Walker's late father was a math teacher. A 1986 graduate of Madison High School and member of the track team, Walker also enjoys intramural sports. He plans to participate in the Prairie State Games this summer at Champaign.

(BAC Photo by Kimon Raphaelidis)

He ran the 100 and 200 meters in track and has collected ribbons, medals and trophies, he said.

Students learn to accomplish goals with minimum of stress

Deciding what the top priorities are in one's life, working out a plan for accomplishing those things, and putting the plan into action were among the basic techniques students at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville learned at a recent leadership seminar.

The Time Management seminar, led by Jesse Harris, counselor at the university, and Terri Abernathy, student body president, was one of a series of seminars being offered to SIUE students during the spring quarter by the Student Leadership Development Program.

Outlining a plan for managing time, Harris and Abernathy suggested that students first list the things they wish to accomplish. Then they should organize the list of tasks, ranking the jobs as urgent, moderately important and least important.

Harris said students should make up a list of tasks they want to achieve each day. "Make out a daily 'do' list, working from top to bottom," Harris said.

"If you start a project, do something with it," he told the students, adding that they should strive to complete a project once it has been started. "Handle a

piece of paper only once," he said.

There are many barriers to effectively managing time, it was noted. Some of those cited during the seminar included: overcommitment, unclear values and objectives, unusual family expectations, physical illness, telephone interruptions, poor scheduling for viewing television, meetings, mistakes, attempting to do too many things at once, unrealistic time estimates for each project, lack of organization and partying.

The leadership program provides SIUE students with opportunities to enhance their leadership skills and citizenship potential through education and experience. There are no admission requirements and the seminars are free.



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Bunn

Mary (Briggs) Bunn, 78, Granite City, died at 3 p.m. Saturday, May 14, 1988, at Edwardsville Care Center. She had been ill one year.

Born April 28, 1910, in Dow, Ill., Mrs. Bunn lived in Granite City for 78 years. She had worked as a checker at the former Tri-City Grocery at 4th Street and Cleveland Blvd. and formerly owned the B & N Confectionery in West Granite City.

Mrs. Bunn was a member of the Dewey Avenue Methodist Church and belonged to the Dewey Avenue Sisterhood for 45 years.

She was preceded in death in 1972 by her husband, Arthur Bunn, and is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Joyce Fricke, Granite City, a sister, Mrs. Herschel (Dorothy) Cassy, Springfield, Mo., one grandchild, two great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at Werner Chapel for Funerals, 3839 Lake Drive, Pontoon Beach, with the Rev. Vernon Brown officiating. Burial took place at Sunset Hill Cemetery, Edwardsville. Visitation was held Monday.

Dickman

George Dickman, 80, Edwardsville, formerly of Granite City, died at 1:30 a.m. Monday, May 16, 1988, at the Edwardsville Care Center. He had been ill for a number of years.

Born Jan. 7, 1908, in Edwardsville, Mr. Dickman was last employed as a parking lot attendant at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Granite City, and was a member of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church here.

Never married, he is survived by a brother, Ralph Dickman, and three sisters, Mrs. Katharine Moser and Mrs. Ruby Range, both of Granite City, and Alice Dickman, Edwardsville.

Private graveside services are planned at 1 p.m. (Wednesday) at St. Boniface Cemetery, Edwardsville. There was no visitation. Arrangements are by Thomas Memorial Mortuary, 2205 Pontoon Road.

Born Aug. 8, 1900, in Granite City, Mr. Hessel resided here all his life. He retired in 1960 from the Smith-Rowland Co., Granite City, where he was an electrician for 40 years.

He was a charter member of Bethel Evangelical Free Church. Mr. Hessel was preceded in death March 15, 1983, by his wife, Cecelia (Nadler) Hessel. He is survived by two sons, Edwin A. Hessel Jr., Roseville, Calif., and David Hessel, Lindale, Texas, six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at Bethel Evangelical Free Church, with the Rev. Bob Widbin officiating. Burial was at St. Paul Cemetery, Edwardsville. Visitation took place Monday at Thomas Memorial Mortuary, 2205 Pontoon Road.

Jackson

Nellie B. (Heffner) Jackson, 87, 9 1/2 Court, Pontoon Beach, died at 2:25 a.m. Sunday, May 15, 1988, at Emerald Garden Nursing Home, Lebanon, Ill. She had been ill 14 years.

Born June 14, 1900, in Whitehall, Ill., Mrs. Jackson resided in the Quad City area 50 years. She was a Baptist.

She was preceded in death in 1988 by her husband, Henry H. Jackson, and in 1978 by a son, Lloyd Ashford.

She is survived by a brother, Kenneth Heffner, Whitehall; two grandchildren, Jerry Ashford, Pontoon Beach, and Dale Peavler, Wentzville; four great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at Werner Chapel for Funerals, 3839 Lake Drive, Pontoon Beach, with the Rev. Kerr officiating. Burial was at Hickory Grove Cemetery, Wright, Ill. Visitation also was Tuesday.

Reisinger, stationed with the U.S. Army in Germany; two daughters, Carol Jean Sudek, Champaign, Kan., and Mrs. Mike (Nancy) Showalter, Staunton; two brothers, Marion "Bud" Reisinger, St. Peters, Mo., and Herbert Reisinger, Granite City; and two sisters, Mrs. Orle (Ruth) Bunker, Granite City, and Mrs. Tom (Donna) Leonard, Janesville, Wis.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at New Douglas Baptist Church, New Douglas, Ill. Burial was at New Douglas Cemetery. Visitation took place Monday at Lesicko Funeral Home, New Douglas.

Robertson

Ruth M. (Stallings) Robertson, 56, Tooele, Utah, formerly of Granite City, died at 2 p.m. Friday, May 6, 1988, at St. Mark's Hospital, Salt Lake City.

Born in Illinois, Mrs. Robertson resided in Granite City for 39 years. She was employed at the Tooele Army Depot.

She was active in the Elks Lodge, Moose Lodge and Catholic Auxiliary.

Mrs. Robertson was preceded in death in 1980 by her husband, Leo Robertson Sr. She is survived by two sons, Leo Robertson Jr., Tremont, Utah, and Michael Robertson, Tooele; four daughters, Marcia, Rebecca and Laura Robertson, all of Salt Lake City, and Carlee N. McNeese, Morgan, Utah; two brothers, Dr. Lelan Stallings, Merced, and Robert Stallings, Seattle; one sister, Edna Crews, Chokio; and eight grandchildren. Burial was made at Tooele Cemetery.

Spickett

Leona F. (Hunter) Spickett, 82, formerly of Granite City, died at 7 p.m. Monday, May 16, 1988, at the Odd Fellows Rebekah Home, Mattoon. She had been ill since November 1987.

Born Oct. 19, 1905, in New Franklin, Mo., Mrs. Spickett resided in Granite City for 38 years. She retired in 1980 from Schulze & Burch Biscuit Co., where she was a bookkeeper.

Mrs. Spickett, a Protestant, was a member of the Juanita Rebekah Lodge since 1954. She was a past member of the DeMolay Mothers' Club and the Job's Daughters.

Preceded in death Feb. 4, 1967, by her husband, Cyril Spickett, she is survived by a son, David Spickett, Granite City; a daughter, Mrs. James (Dorothy) Sexton, Livermore, Calif.; a sister, Mrs. Leda Corcoran, St. Louis; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services are pending but are to be held Thursday morning at Irwin Chapel for Funerals, 2801 Madison Ave., 877-6500. Burial will be at Memorial Park, St. Louis. Visitation will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. today (Wednesday). Memorials are requested for the Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Association.

Venable

Chloe E. Venable, 83, 2000 13th St., died at 7:45 a.m. Monday, May 16, 1988, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. She had been ill four years and hospitalized five weeks.

Born April 23, 1905, in Cross-town, Mo., Mrs. Venable resided in the Quad Cities for 43 years. She was retired from Grey Packing Co., where she worked for 29 years. She was a member of Word of Life Tabernacle and Meatscutters Local 545.

Mrs. Venable was preceded in death in 1983 by her husband, Grady. She is survived by two sons, Herbert Venable, Madison, and Odie Venable, Granite City; a daughter, Bernita Cox, St. Louis; a brother, Ernest Clifton, St. Louis; three sisters, Ruby Trout and Zida Fannon, both of East St. Louis, and Verna Austin, of Illinois; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. today (Wednesday) at Irwin Chapel for Funerals, 2801 Madison Ave., with the Rev. Henry Crippen officiating, followed by graveside services at York Cemetery, Perryville, Mo. Visitation was held Tuesday from 5 to 9 p.m. at Irwin.

School news welcomed

Information about schools in Granite City, Madison and Venice is welcomed by the Press-Record/Journal.

Send information and photos about school events at the elementary, middle and high school levels to: Paul Guggina, Granite City Press-Record/Journal, 1815 Delmar Ave., Granite City, IL, 62040.

For the record

•Fire

Eagle Park fire burns out of control

(Continued from Page 1A)

cially located there, at least some of the buildings in the area were lived in most of the time. In 1981, a court order was required to douse a fire in the same area. On Monday, State Park Place and Madison fire departments, when ordered to do so as a disaster emergency service, finally fought the blaze for an hour or so in the early evening, but it burned out of control for more than 12 hours.

Eugene Fletcher, who lives "mostly right here," leaned on his pickup truck and watched the fire. When it started, he and several other men had tried to run all of the hoses out of the burning pens, but he "guessed some of them burned." His "100 to 130 hogs, owned along with a man named Black" were still safe in their pens, but the flames were being whipped up by the wind.

"I'm trying to see what's

going to happen, hoping it will go back the other way. This puts me out of business and I guess I'm through with hogs."

At 10 p.m., almost six hours after it started, all of the pens located near the fire's starting point were gone and, because the wind had shifted, the fire was headed toward homes on Eagle Park Road.

Allen Glasper sat in his front yard and watched the flames.

"If the fire reaches that back fence, then it's going to get my trailer back there, too. I went to Ed Lee's (Eddie Lee Salmond, Eagle Park Fire Department) house in person and he told me he wouldn't do anything about the hog pens, but he would take care of me. But he hasn't come here yet."

"So I've got to sit up all night with the fire."

A little less than 200 yards from Glasper's house, five men fought a fire that was only 15 feet from their shed and hog pen. Darkness and choking smoke composed every problem as they pumped water from

a lake.

"I've got some more hose if we can hook it on somehow," one shouted.

"Run down to the truck, take off the radiator hose and bring back the clamps."

"We're going to have to shut down the pump to hook it up. The thing gets temperamental when it's hot, and it's cherry red-right now."

Jonnie Jackson said he lives in East St. Louis "but I've got a little house out here and I just stay here a lot. The fire stayed away from me, but it burned out everything back there. A lot of people lost most everything."

"I just thank God I escaped so far. I'm going to stay here tonight just in case something changes and it burns back."

"You aren't going to get rich raising hogs, but you can live. A lot of these people are like me on a fixed income, and spending half of that on the hogs."

"And then to have them turned into barbecue! Barbecue that you can't eat."

•TIF

Commission adds three members

(Continued from Page 1A)

Wilson and Whitsell, five years; Abel and Patrick, four years; Vincent, three years; McNew, two years; and Warren, one year.

Whitsell, who was named TIF Commission chairman, said Tuesday that meetings of the commission will be open to the public.

"We will comply with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, although by statute we don't

have to do so," Whitsell said.

The services of a financial adviser will be needed by the commission, he said.

The commission will meet at 8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall and is empowered to deal with all aspects of construction and development in the village's TIF districts, Whitsell said.

Commissioners will meet with Stan Lucas, the developer-coordinator, screen bids and recommend certain actions to the Board of Trustees.

"I'd like to see all bids come

to the TIF Commission," Whitsell said.

He made the comment after bids from three area construction firms, relating to infrastructure work at the 68-acre Chouteau Trace I development, were presented to the board. The bids were referred to the commission.

Chouteau Trace I and Chouteau Trace II, both TIF districts, have been established within the village boundaries in the past nine months. Setting up a third district is being considered.

Summa cum laude honors to be given

Webster University in St. Louis is announced academic honors for the class of 1988. Graduates will receive degrees at Webster's commencement ceremony May

14 at 2 p.m. in Powell Hall.

Summa cum Laude academic honors were awarded to Deborah Kay Milton, Granite City.

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Eugene Gargac

Gargac

Eugene S. Gargac, 51, 4552 Edwardsville Road, died at 12:20 p.m. Saturday, May 14, 1988, at his home. He had been ill eight months.

Born Jan. 19, 1937, in Granite City, Mr. Gargac lived in the Granite City area all his life. He was employed as a steel erector at Steel for 32 years as a roll former and also was a self-employed farmer.

A Navy veteran, Mr. Gargac was a former Nameoki Township auditor, a Democratic precinct committeeman and a member of the Madison County Farm Bureau.

He is survived by his wife, Lucille (Kachadorian) Gargac; two sons, Eugene S. Gargac Jr. and David M. Gargac, both of Granite City; two daughters, Karol L. Robinson, Norfolk, Va., and Christa M. Gargac, Edwardsville; two stepsons, Dale Schaefer and Irwin Schaefer, both of Granite City; two stepdaughters, Kim King and Elizabeth Schaeffer, both of Granite City; his mother, Elizabeth (Horvath) Gargac, Granite City; two brothers, Don L. Gargac, Granite City, and Stephen F. Gargac, Collinsville; and one sister, Mrs. Audrey Just, Raymondsville, Texas.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at St. John United Church of Christ, Granite City, with the Rev. Allen Reiter officiating. Burial was at Sunset Hill Cemetery, Edwardsville. Visitation was held Monday at Irwin Chapel for Funerals, 2801 Madison Ave. Memorials may be sent to the Cancer Research Center of Barnes Hospital.

Hessel

Edwin A. Hessel Sr., 87, Granite City, died at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 14, 1988, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center.

Mildred Meehan

Meehan

Mildred Ruth (Weiss) Meehan, 61, Granite City, died at 12:15 a.m. Sunday, May 15, 1988, at her residence. She had been ill six months.

Born Jan. 8, 1927, in Granite City, Mrs. Meehan resided here all her life. She retired in 1979 from the Tri-City Chapter, American Red Cross, which she served as executive director.

She was a member of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church and the Madison and Venice Senior Citizens. She was formerly a member of the Madison Junior Service Club, the Granite City Business and Professional Women's Club and the St. Elizabeth Church choir.

She is survived by her husband, John Meehan, whom she married Aug. 14, 1948, at St. Mark's Catholic Church, Venice; one son, Michael J. Meehan, Edwardsville; two daughters, Melanie and Michelle Meehan, both of Granite City; her father, Ignace Weiss, Madison; one brother, Jerome Weiss, St. Louis; one sister, Suzanne Weiss, Madison; and two grandchildren.

The Rev. Elzac Gehlen conducted funeral services Tuesday at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, with a Rosary held Monday night at St. John United Church of Christ, 2205 Pontoon Road. Burial was at St. Dennis Cemetery, Shipman, Ill.

Memorials may be sent to the American Red Cross, Hospice of Madison County or the American Cancer Society.

Reisinger

George E. Reisinger, 58, Sorento, Ill., formerly of Granite City, died at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 12, 1988, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Granite City, after a heart attack.

Born Dec. 22, 1929, Mr. Reisinger resided in Granite City for 48 years. He was employed at the Granite City Steel blast furnace division for 33 years and was a member of Suburban Baptist Church.

He is survived by five sons, Charles Reisinger, Chester, Ill., Monty Reisinger, Madison, Michael Reisinger, Bonita, Calif., Reisinger, Florida, and Russell



Essay winner

ANGELA FAVIER, a sixth-grade student, received a first-place award in the Americanism essay contest, sponsored by the AMVETS Auxiliary 51, using the theme 'We the People.' She was presented a \$50 savings bond and is now eligible for the essay contest sponsored by the Department of Illinois AMVETS in June. Also present are, from left, Barbara Varadian, teacher at Parkview Elementary School; Betty Wilkins, Americanism chairman of the Auxiliary; and Phyllis Tally, teacher.

McGuire receives law degree May 7

Marilyn Denise McGuire, a 1974 graduate of Granite City High School North, was one of the May graduating class at South Texas College of Law in Houston where doctor of jurisprudence degrees were conferred May 7.

McGuire is the daughter of

former Mitchell area residents Ken and Gay Harbarger. She is married to Charles L. McGuire and the couple have a 4-year-old son.

The recent law school graduate is employed at a Houston law firm.

Lesche Literary meets in Ladue

The Lesche Literary Club was entertained in April at the home of Mrs. Keith Jackson, Ladue, Mo.

Jackson, the club's president, served a luncheon to the group, and then called the meeting to order. She asked Burdine Holtzschler to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and Virginia John to lead the collect.

Continuing with the club's study theme for the year, "Women in the News," John presented a report on Mother Teresa, founder of the Missionaries of Charity, and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Jackson announced that a donation to the Granite City Friends of the Library had been made.

She presented the following slate of officers for the coming year: president, Ruth Seymour; vice president, Connie Strothede; secretary, Verna Stuart; and treasurer, Holtzschler.

Ruth Ann Bartels, Literature Committee chairperson, reported that Granite City High School seniors will be submitting themes to her committee for judging for the Garret Kelsos Awards. These literary awards are presented annually during Senior Recognition Day at the high school.

Ruth Seymour, program co-chairperson, announced that the next meeting will be the President's Day luncheon May 10, at Chez Seamus, Edwardsville.

Others present were Mary Davis, Bess Henley, Catherine Schnipper, Betty Harmon, associated members Hannah Kleinschmidt and Ted Viehl, and guest Rosemary Shurtum, Ladue, Mo.

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First determine what you want to say. Then write it out in short sentences. Make sure to cover essentials, such as names, places, times and dates.

There is no charge for news items.

Submit news items to: Copy Desk Chief, Press-Record/Journal, 1815 Delmar Ave., Granite City, IL, 62040

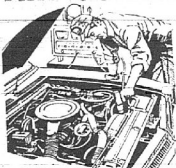
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Cubs become Boy Scouts

Cub Pack 28, sponsored by Parkway School PTA, held its monthly meeting with the theme "Cub Scout Bird Watchers."

Den 2 Cub Darren Isbrecht, Mike Kaminski and Ryan Cooley opened with a recitation "Red, White and Blue," under the leadership of Donna Kaminski.

Cubmaster Pat Foote welcomed the group, and introduced representatives from Troops 46 and 14.

Den 3 leader Gail Wyatt assisted Scouts Mark Thomas, Jason Kaminski, Ryan Cooley, Matthew Whitehead and the audience in singing "My Hat, It Has Three Corners."

Ron Hoenig, Den 5 leader, instructed the group in playing "Blow the Feather." The boys competed against the parents, who won.

Committee Chairman Pat Thomas assisted Foote in presenting "Stash the Trash" patches to Nicholas Thomas, Mark Thomas, Brandon Martinez, Jeffrey Klee, Darren Isbrecht, Jeff and Greg Hoenig, Mike and Jason Kaminski, John Kelly, Chad Ashoff, Brad Graves, Jason Lombardi, James Stephens, Kevin Wheeler and Darrell Freeman.

Girl Scout Katie Kaminski also received a patch.

Receiving Gymnastics Belt Loops for the sports program were: Ashoff, Graves, Lombardi, Stephens, Wheeler, Freeman, Mark and Nicholas Thomas, Klee, Jason and Mike Kaminski, Ryan Cooley, Ryan Haddix, John Kelly, Matthew Whitehead, Jeremy McKinney, Paul Holloway.

Jeff and Greg Hoenig, Jeff Logsdon, Brandon Martinez, Jeremy Gutierrez, Ricky Whitehead, Donnie Baker, Troy Tyley, Chris Markovich, Nicholas Huniak, Brandon Houser, Scott Bonds, Ryan Cooley, Ben Conway and Steve Benko.

Marbles Belt loops went to Mark Thomas, Ryan Cooley, Jason Kaminski, Kelly, Klee, Matthew Whitehead, Ashoff, Graves, Lombardi, Stephens, Wheeler and Freeman.

Sports patches went to Matthew Whitehead and Klee, and Wolf badges were presented to the parents of Mark Thomas and Jeffrey Klee, who in turn presented the awards to their sons.

Thomas received one Gold and two Silver Arrows, and Klee received a Gold Arrow.

Matthew Whitehead was presented with one Gold and one Silver Arrow for the Wolf rank. Receiving one Silver Arrow each for the Bear rank were Jeff

Hoenig, Greg Hoenig and Nicholas Thomas.

Webelos Activity badges were presented by Foote. Webelos leader Mike Graves explained the requirements.

Receiving Engineer badges were: Ashoff, Brad Graves, Lombardi, Stephens, Wheeler and Freeman. Wheeler received a Citizen Activity Badge, and Freeman received the Artist and Geologist Activity Badge.

In a candlelight awards ceremony, "The Seven Virtues of Life," in which Foote was assisted by Ricky Thomas, den chief, Ron Hoenig and Mike Graves presented "Arrow of Light" awards and graduation certificates to Darren Isbrecht, Mike Kaminski, Chad Ashoff, Brad Graves, Jason Lombardi, James Stephens, Kevin Wheeler and Darrell Freeman.

The "Arrow of Light" is the highest award in Cub Scouting and the only award that can be carried over into Boy Scouting.

Each boy "Crossed over the Bridge," with their parents, to be accepted into Boy Scouting. They were welcomed into Troop 46, sponsored by the Long Lake Fire Department, by Ray Meyenberg and Bob Hinson. Dan and Eric Vallo represented Troop 14, sponsored by the Good Shepherd Church. Each graduating boy received a Boy Scout Handbook from the Pack Committee.

Foote announced that next month's pack meeting will be a bike rodeo and picnic, followed by a baseball game. The boys will compete against the adults.

Two Cardinal baseball games and a fishing derby have been scheduled for summer activities. John Cox will be the new leader of Den 4.

The meeting closed with Den 3 retiring the colors, and refreshments were served by Den 1.

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Shrine honors past officers

Gabriel Shrine honors past officers.

The April meeting of Gabriel Shrine, Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, was conducted by Worthy High Priestess Helen Schwendemann, and Watchman of Shepherds Jerry Pragacz.

Junior past officers Donna and Henry Thomas were honored and presented gifts before being seated in the East.

Supreme committee members, supreme instructors, deputy supreme watchmen of shepherds and supreme honorary officers from neighboring shrines, as well as from Gabriel Shrine, were escorted and introduced.

Worthy high priestesses and watchman of shepherds escorted and introduced were Ruth Cox, Paul Revere, and Mary and Charles Keefe.

A social hour was held in the fellowship room, where the tables were decorated with hand-crocheted garden party hats and baskets of Easter flowers and eggs. The Social Committee consisted of Lucille Tabor, Barbara Mehele, and Helen and James Schwendemann.

Installing Officer Della Aulbaugh and Installing Chaplain Cox installed Donna Thomas as shepherdess, and Henry Thomas as wise man.

Serving as pro-tem officers were: Betty Henry, Lloyd Lewis, Charles Keefe, Judy Maloney and John Everson.

Reported ill were Bonnie Gisher, Mary Bilibrey and Effie Johnson.

Treasurer Bonnie Rutkowski, Marie Eads, Catherine Kostoff, Christine Hornberger, Oetken and new member Irene Doroghazi.

The June 1 meeting will be hosted at 1 p.m. by Marie Oetken, 4004 North St.

Present were: President Mary Stomum, Vice President Clara Winter, Secretary Helen Meyer.

Honor society inducts 108 members

Beta Gamma Sigma, the national scholastic honor society in business and administration, inducted 108 new members, including Jody L. Little, Granite City, into its campus chapter at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

Candidates must be in the upper 5 percent of their class as juniors, the upper 10 percent as seniors or the top 20 percent as master's degree candidates.

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Garden club plants trees for Arbor Day

At the Garden Study Club's May meeting hosted by Norma Crenshaw, members responded to roll call with the botanical and common name of one state wild flower.

The Edwardsville Garden Club has invited the Garden Study to its Rose Luncheon on June 2 at Walton's Restaurant, Illinois 159 at Cottonwood.

During April, the Garden Study planted a pin oak for Arbor Day at the new Mitchell Fire Station and planted three pin oaks and two herb gardens at Old Six Mile Historical Museum.

The June 1 meeting will be hosted at 1 p.m. by Marie Oetken, 4004 North St.

Present were: President Mary Stomum, Vice President Clara Winter, Secretary Helen Meyer.

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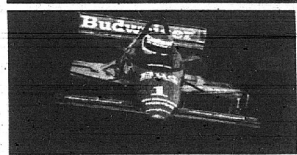
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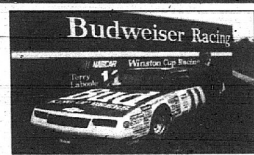
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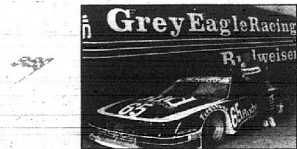
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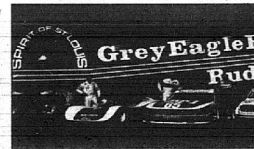
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Travel

Study reward programs prior to joining jet set

By Deborah Reinhardt

Frequent-flyer programs are soaring in popularity. However, if consumers took their heads out of the clouds, they would see that these memberships are not necessarily heavenly deals.

The travel reward program was started seven years ago and was considered by the airline industry as a short-term promotion. But what began as a lure for consumers to develop brand loyalty has grown into the best marketing tool in air travel history.

Basic frequent-flyer programs are similar at most major airlines. After compiling as few as 10,000 miles, passengers can upgrade the next coach ticket they buy to first class. For 35,000 miles, they can earn a round-trip ticket to anywhere in mainland United States, and at 50,000 it's to Hawaii or Europe.

Consumers also can earn mileage by charging merchandise on certain credit cards, by staying at particular hotels, or renting a car.

According to a (December, 1987) study by the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG), frequent fliers are eligible for more than a million free tickets because they have accumulated billions of miles in the programs. Last month, *Time* magazine reported that the number of passengers participating in these programs has surged from 4 million in 1987 to 8 million today and that they hold 30 million memberships in travel reward programs because most consumers sign up with more than one airline.

Frequent-flyer deals started as a good idea, but the legions of program members flying on free tickets are displacing paying passengers, according to the NAAG report. However, Mary O'Neill, spokeswoman for American Airlines, disagreed.

"It's possible, but it hasn't happened," O'Neill said. "But that AA Advantage passenger has earned that seat by flying with us to rack up those miles."

AA Advantage is American Airlines' frequent-flyer program.

The scramble for air travel miles intensified in January when airlines offered tripled mileage, three miles' credit for every mile flown. And customers jammed airports during the last week of March in hopes of cashing in on the special offer before the deadline of midnight March 31. O'Neill said American Airlines had seen an increase during that week. Although Easter and spring break came in late March, O'Neill said some traffic was due to the triple mileage reward rush.

One airline analyst told *Time* that consumers eventually will pay through the nose for the frequent-flyer programs. Somehow, the cost for expensive promotions has to be recouped.

But O'Neill said travel rewards do not affect reasons why fares are increased.

Another complaint about frequent-flyer offers was significant modifications to the program without adequate notice to airline customers. Some airlines last year reduced benefits without providing members with an opportunity to respond to changes, according to the NAAG report.

Free first-class tickets to Hawaii are tempting, but before joining a frequent-flyer program, consider the following:

• What are the restrictions? NAAG guidelines say airlines must clearly disclose on frequent-flyer advertising blackout dates and limits on percentage of seats allocated to award recipients. Airlines impose capacity controls to avoid losing their shirts. But consumers should know they might not be given the reward tickets to Europe during their desired time for travel.

• Is there a fee to join? Some airlines require consumers to fill out an enrollment form and turn in a fee. But before you do, make sure you understand all the restrictions.

• Here is a hotly contested point, according to NAAG's report. If the airline decides to discontinue its frequent-flyer program, will the consumers be given sufficient notice in order to cash in accrued miles? Airlines said because participation in the travel reward deals is free, carriers should be able to kill the program without notice. If this point is not represented in your travel reward literature, call the airline and ask specific questions.

One airline official said consumers should not worry about receiving their rewards. There will be enough for everyone because customers will not turn in mileage at once.

"Some airlines are nervous, but at American, we invented frequent flyer programs in 1981, and we know how to manage the program," O'Neill said.

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Those who are traveling beyond Switzerland might con-

sider a package in Geneva or Zurich that includes standard, first-class or deluxe accommodations, continental breakfast, city sightseeing and complimentary admission to a night-club.

There are a number of motorcycle tours through Switzerland, Italy, Austria and Germany. Two tours feature scenic rail travel through Switzerland while health and fitness is addressed in three spa programs to Baden and Leukerbad.

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Spring Car Care

Driving rule: Be ready for road emergencies

Most emergencies last only a few seconds. Therefore, the unprepared driver has little time to evaluate the situation, plot alternatives and then perform the maneuver required. A good driver is prepared for the unexpected.

The first step in dealing with driving emergencies is to recognize them. An article in *New Driver* magazine outlined the three basic types of emergencies and gave some suggestions on how to handle them.

The three major categories of emergencies are those caused by driver error, by mechanical failure, and by road conditions—or some combination of the three.

DRIVER ERROR
Accident statistics reveal that driver error is involved in nearly 90 percent of all auto accidents.

Good defensive driving habits can help the driver be more aware of the condition of the car and the road, and potential hazards.

Drivers also should plan for the unexpected by visualizing how the various emergencies that may occur should be handled.

MECHANICAL FAILURE
Mechanical emergencies involve failures such as blowouts, ineffective brakes and sticking accelerator cables. How do you deal with them?

The best way is to try to prevent them from occurring in the first place by keeping track of the car's condition and practicing preventive maintenance.

Even so, failures still may occur. But only a few of the car's systems actually can create an emergency—the tires and suspension, brakes, lighting and engine controls. Here are a few of the more frequent mechanical failures and how to deal with them:

Blowouts: A tire blowout in a front tire creates an imbalance that tends to pull the car in the direction of the blown tire. If a rear tire blows, the car and of the car tends to weave from side to side.

If a tire blows, keep a firm and steady grip on the steering wheel—a normal driving grip, with your hands at the 9 and 3 o'clock positions. Don't oversteer to correct the pull. The steering wheel will vibrate a great deal, but with so many cars equipped with power-assisted steering, the car will remain under control—if you don't panic.

Fight the urge to brake quickly. With one side of the car providing greater braking force than the other, jamming on the brakes could produce a spinout.

Ease up on the gas instead, and as the car slows, gradually steer

over to the shoulder of the road. Find a place well off the pavement and level enough so you can safely change the tire.

Brake failure: Should the brake pedal go all the way to the floor without slowing down, the driver can take to stop the car. First, pump the brake pedal. Sometimes enough pressure can be restored temporarily to stop the car.

If the pedal still is useless, downshift the transmission—up less the road is very icy. The compression of the engine will help slow the car. Some experts recommend using the parking brake to slow the car—but not at highway speeds! The parking brake was designed for another purpose and could create a wild spin if not properly applied. On cars with automatic transmissions, the parking brake can be used at slow speeds if applied with moderate force while making sure the brake release lever is pulled out as the parking brake is applied.

The last option available to the driver if the brakes fail is to sidestrike something—preferably bushes or a snowbank. Use the horn to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the problem.

Fortunately, with the dual brake systems built into cars over the last decade, total brake

failure is becoming rare.

Sticking Accelerator: The opposite problem of brake failure—but one with a similar effect—is when the accelerator pedal goes to the floor and stays there. If the problem occurs, simply shift to neutral and brake the car to a stop at the side of the road. Then turn the ignition key off.

Burned-Out Headlights: If the headlights go out suddenly and there's no traffic behind you, brake as hard as possible without throwing the car into a skid and keep steering the car along the road. Turn on your emergency flashers as soon as you can. This may give you some light. Once the car has slowed, ease into the shoulder or as far off the road as possible, without going into a ditch. Set out flares or use a flashlight to warn other cars of your presence.

ROAD CONDITIONS

A driver must be aware of road conditions, especially when driving in bad weather. Wet or icy roads increase your chances of going into a skid from a simple driving maneuver that would be perfectly fine in dry-weather conditions.

He points out that extended leaded fuel usage can:

- Foul spark plugs, causing decreased engine performance and more frequent replacement.
- Rot the exhaust system, creating extensive and expensive repairs.

Avoid costly mistake: stick to fuel rules

Putting leaded gasoline into a motor vehicle designed to operate on unleaded fuel can be an expensive way to support a myth, says the American Automobile Manufacturers Association.

The myth—that an automobile performs better with the lead additive—can result in premature spark-plug aging, a worn-out exhaust system, catalytic converter deterioration,

probability of failing an emissions test, shorter oil change intervals and poor resale value, the association says.

So, don't. Don't use leaded gasoline if your car requires unleaded, urges the association, which represents 95 percent of U.S. motor vehicle manufacturers.

For the past decade, most passenger cars have been built with

fuel filler neck restrictors that make the gas tank opening too small to accommodate a nozzle dispensing leaded gas. Those misguided motorists who have tampered with these restrictors seem to be finding out that they made a big mistake. And the word is spreading.

A recent association survey of nearly 1,800 1975-85 model vehicles showed a 7.3 percent tam-

pering rate but a considerably higher rate on models from the 1975-79 model years.

per rate but a considerably higher rate on models from the 1975-79 model years.

Checking drip under car: time well spent

By Peter Bohr

Have you looked at your garage floor lately? No, not the part under that box of old Christmas decorations, but the area under your car.

Does it look reasonably free of oil glops and sludge? Or is it beginning to look like a drilling opportunity for OPEC? It's a good idea to check the floor once a week or so to see what little messes your car may be making. Oil is only one of several fluids vital to your car's good health—fluids that don't do a darn bit of good when they're on the floor.

If your floor is already dirty, you may want to spread some newspapers under the car and leave them overnight. The next morning, you'll have your evidence. The color, smell, feel and location of the drip on the paper will help you diagnose the fluid. (By the way, don't put paper under the car when the exhaust system is terribly hot; it's unlikely, but the paper could catch fire.)

Let's run down the list of car fluids:

• **Engine Oil** is brownish, or, if very dirty, blackish. It will feel oily—what else?—when you touch it. You'll usually find engine-oil leaks under the front half of the car, because that's where the engine is, unless you own a VW Beetle or other rear-drive vehicle.

Oil leaks are especially noticeable after the car has been run hard on the freeway or highway. Your engine has lots of oil inside and it probably won't miss the amount contained in a drip the size of a dime or even a quarter.

In fact, engines made of aluminum (more and more are these days) invariably become a little juicy as they get older. Compared to an all-iron engine, the aluminum engine's components expand and contract more as they heat up, which in turn makes it more difficult for gaskets and seals to keep the oil inside the engine, where it belongs.

In any case, ask your mechanic to check out any oil leak you find. It may be something easily fixed, like a loose oil filter, for instance. However, if a leak is coming from an internal seal, and if the leak isn't too large, then it's probably not worth the cost of tearing apart the engine just to keep your garage floor clean.

Then again, some oil leaks are never acceptable. I once owned an old Jaguar that occasionally dripped a little oil onto the exhaust pipe. Billows of smoke would rise through the vents in the hood. There was never any fire, but onlookers didn't know it. That car could clear a crowded intersection faster than an ambulance.

• **Gasoline** evaporates quickly.

So the usual clue for a minor gas leak is a vague smell, often in the trunk or the engine compartment. Because gas travels from the rest of the car, where the gas tank is located, to the front, where the engine is located (or vice versa in rear engine cars), the leak could come from almost anywhere under the car.

If the smell isn't strong and you don't see any leak, have a mechanic inspect the car at your earliest convenience. However, if you should see a puddle under the car and you dab your finger in it and it smells of gas, push the car out of the garage into an open area, and call the auto-club truck— pronto. We all know what Molotov cocktails are, and your car is in imminent danger of becoming one.

• **Brake Fluid** is usually clear, has a strong medicine smell, and, for obvious reasons, is not something you ever want to have leaking from your car. It's also murder on paint, incidentally.

1988, Newspaper Enterprise

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Spark knock may signal warning

A phenomenon almost as old as the automobile itself is known as "pinging," or spark knock. It's that familiar rattling sound that occasionally comes from under the hood when you step on the gas.

Technically called "detonation," this sound is a signal the engine is being subjected to abnormal pressures and temperatures, which could result in premature engine failure. On some state-of-the-art engines, critical adjustments allow a trace of detonation under certain driving circumstances, as a normal condition. Described more as a "ticking" than "pinging," this will not harm the engine.

What causes detonation? Sometimes it is low-octane gas; perhaps the fuel most recently purchased was inferior. Or, if the engine is due for a tuneup, it may be caused by incorrect ignition timing.

The sound comes from an

explosion, rather than the normal controlled, even burning of the fuel-air mixture in the engine's combustion chamber. Severe detonation can raise combustion chamber temperatures from normal to well above the melting point of many metals, causing potentially serious damage to pistons and valves.

According to the spark plug engineers, whose products must survive this hostile environment, pinging due to inferior gas usually can be cured by switching to a higher octane fuel for a tankful or two. If the pinging persists or if it returns after going back to your usual grade of gas, consult a mechanic. Neglecting a persistent ping is like ignoring a chronic pain.

Other causes of pinging include a leaking intake manifold, or other vacuum leak; a worn distributor; a malfunctioning EGR (Exhaust Gas Recirculation) valve or overheating of

the engine.

Detonation is prevalent among cars driven mainly at low speeds, especially stop-and-go type of driving. The engine tends to "carbon up"; carbon deposits accumulate inside the combustion chamber and on the pistons. When a speck of carbon glows red, that "hot spot" prematurely ignites the fuel in the combustion chamber. This is called pre-ignition and results in pinging.

Sometimes excessive carbon can be burned off simply by giving the car a workout, a good run at highway speeds for at least 10 miles.

On higher-mileage cars, it may become necessary to remove the cylinder head, remove the carbon and grind the valves. Since this can be an expensive operation, be sure first to explore all other corrective options.

New automobile calls for an education

You're driving down the interstate late at night in a new car. Without warning the clouds burst open and you are caught in a downpour. You reach for the wiper switch, but it's not where it was in the old car. You look down to search for the switch. When you look up, you and your new car are headed for a ditch. Or worse.

An accident like the one described is not just a remote possibility for car buyers who put off educating themselves about their new vehicles. To be a safe driver, one must be capable of reacting swiftly and surely. In emergency situations, there's no time for study and examination. All of that needs to be done beforehand.

All car models have different placements for virtually everything. Control placement can even differ within the range of

some models, depending on options. Take the time to learn about and get the feel of your car's controls, instruments and foot pedals.

Controls: In the above accident scenario, the accident could have been avoided if the driver had taken a few seconds to find all the controls before driving the car. The owner's manual is a good guide to the placement of controls.

Instruments: Make sure you know where all the instruments are located and how they are numbered. Knowing where each speed is on the speedometer can save you a costly ticket. A needle position indicating 35 mph on a familiar car could indicate 55 or 65 mph on a different car.

Foot Pedals: The placement of foot pedals also can vary from car to car. To avoid accidental acceleration, the council recom-

mends putting the transmission in park (neutral for manual transmissions) and stepping solidly on the brake. Listen to the engine. If the engine starts to race when you depress the pedal, take a look at your feet. You may be catching the accelerator with the side of your foot or, if you are not familiar with the car, you may have hit the accelerator pedal instead of the brake.

The Automotive Information Council says to be a safe driver, you need to know the car you are driving. If you are part of a multicar family, take a few extra moments behind the wheel before taking off. Think about the controls, instruments and pedals of that particular car. It may sound absurd, but it could save you a lot of grief.

Tidbits to help extend car's life

A little of this and a little of that to help you keep your car alive.

If you want to give your engine a cheap checkup, look inside the exhaust pipe. If it's gray, the lighter the better, then major repair bills probably are not in your near future.

If it's a sooty black, there could be a fuel-system problem. Adjusting the carburetor or fuel injection may be all that's required. But if it's black and you see or feel tiny droplets of oil in the tailpipe or spray and pour above it, you've got an oil burner. That means it's engine-rebuild time.

This tailpipe color check is particularly useful if you're out shopping for a used car.

Cars, like people, get sunburned. Summertime sun and heat make the paint fade, the dash crack and the upholstery split.

Some car owners think that a car cover causes heat buildup inside. Well, that's a lot of hot air. The heat actually is caused by the sun hitting steel and glass. A cover diminishes interior heat buildup while protecting the paint from the sun's rays. But a cover can trap a car's paint if it traps water underneath. Buy one made of a cotton blend (rather than polyester or nylon) so it will "breathe."

Another hot topic: Is water a better conductor of heat than

antifreeze (and it is about three times better), why do automakers want us to add antifreeze to the water in our cars' cooling systems even during warm weather?

The answer: The normal operating temperature of an engine usually is close to the boiling point of water. When water boils, there's steam. And because steam is a lousy conductor of heat, it won't do much to keep the engine cool. Antifreeze (ethylene glycol) raises the boiling point of the water so it won't turn to steam as quickly. It also inhibits rust and electrolysis, and acts as a lubricant for the water pump.

If some antifreeze is good, wouldn't a lot be better? No. With a solution that's more than 60 percent antifreeze, the boiling point actually is lowered. Modern car cooling systems are designed for a 50-50 mixture of antifreeze and water, no more, no less.

More and more high-tech, high-line cars these days are equipped with anti-lock brake systems (ABS). Fortunately, most people rarely have to brake hard enough to activate ABS. The system doesn't need mechanical systems, "use it or lose it" doesn't apply to ABS. The system doesn't need an occasional workout to maintain its readiness.

But if your car has ABS and you've never experienced it, find

an empty parking lot or lightly travel on road and slam on the brakes. If you're not amazed at how much safer the ABS makes you feel, especially on loose or rain-slicked surfaces, then something may be amiss with the system in your car.

Many motorists, encouraged by oil-company advertising, believe that higher-octane gasoline sparks greater engine performance.

Well, it ain't necessarily so. If your car's engine doesn't detonate or "knock" (a sort of metallic rattling sound) when you accelerate, then the gas you're using is just fine. Buying gasoline with a higher octane rating won't give any more power but will waste your money, because "high-test" or "supreme" gas grades are more expensive, often much more.

One caveat, though. Some cars have a knock sensor, a gizmo that detects detonation and then automatically adjusts the ignition system to compensate for low-octane gas. Certain knock sensor-equipped cars will develop more power with higher octane; others won't. Check your owner's manual or ask your mechanic if your car has a sensor.

Drive train explained

Car Care Council—which believes that motorists profit from learning as much as they can about their vehicles—is offering an illustrated pamphlet, "What You Should Know About Your Car's Drive Train," which explains in non-technical language what components make up this system.

To receive a copy, send 25 cents and a stamped, self-addressed, business-size envelope to: Drive Train, Car Care Council, 600 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Mich. 48243.



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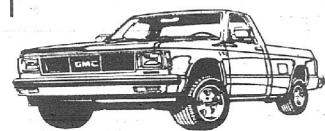
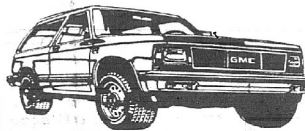
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Around the kitchen

New style of french cuisine makes good healthy eating today

For centuries, the grande cuisine of France with lavish dishes and rich sauces has been the hallmark of fine dining. Yet with today's focus on healthy eating, French chefs have developed a new cooking regimen based on the idea that good taste does not require high levels of fat, cholesterol, sugar and salt.

The principles of this new "eulaisine mincure" provide some excellent guidelines for preparing delicious, healthful meals in any language:

- Sparing use of butter, cream, cheese and other high-fat ingredients.
- Limited use of sugar, starches, eggs and alcohol, unless the alcohol content is evaporated.
- Elimination of rich sauces in favor of fresh herbs and natural juices to enhance the flavor of dishes.

Poached flounder With Mushrooms

1 cup water
1 tsp. lemon juice
1 (16 oz.) pkg. frozen flounder fillets, thawed just enough to separate
1 cup sliced mushrooms
tsp. salt, if desired
1 tsp. nutmeg
1 tsp. paprika
2 tsp. evaporated skim milk

Pour water and lemon juice into skillet. Bring to simmer. Separate flounder. Place in simmering water. Cover and let fish poach 3 minutes.

Remove fish to shallow baking dish. Simmer liquid remaining in skillet until it boils down to half. Add sliced mushrooms. Heat 2

minutes. Stir in evaporated milk, nutmeg, paprika and salt. Pour over fillets. Brown under broiler one minute or until fish flakes easily with fork.

Yields 4 servings, 90 calories and 1 gm. fat each.

The spring volume of the AICR cookbook series "An Ounce of Prevention," is available for a \$5 donation to the American Institute for Cancer Research, Dept. CB16, Washington, D.C. 20069.

Registered dietitian Karen Collins reviews this material for the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Sprinkle green beans

1 (10 1/2 oz.) can cream of mushroom soup
1 cup cracker crumbs or crushed croutons
1 (10 oz.) can tomatoes with green chilies
3 tbsp. flour
1 cup dairy sour cream
1 onion, chopped
1 tsp. salt
Dash pepper
4 slices crisply cooked bacon, crumbled
2 (10 oz.) pkg. frozen green beans, thawed, or **2** (16 oz.) cans green beans, drained

Sprinkle 1/2 cup cracker crumbs or croutons on bottom of greased 1 1/2-quart casserole.

Blend tomatoes and green chilies, soup, flour, sour cream, onion, salt, pepper and bacon to make sauce.

Alternate layers of beans, tomato and green chilies and sauce in casserole. Sprinkle with remaining cracker crumbs.

Bake at 350° for 30 minutes or until lightly browned.

Makes 6 servings.

Grade shows best choice in beef shopping

By Jacqueline Lanfker
Registered dietitian
American Heart Association

Scanning a meat case of the local grocery store or butcher shop in search of lean cuts of beef can cause confusion with grading terminology.

Beef grading comes under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which employs trained graders to classify meats according to the amount of fat, called marbling, interlaced in muscle tissue. The meat processor pays for the services of this official.

Depending on the amount of marbling present, a grade is stamped on the carcass. The three top grades are USDA Prime, USDA Choice and USDA Select.

Of the three grades, the beef labeled select is leanest and contains little marbling. Until recently, USDA Select beef was

labeled USDA Good beef. The name change was prompted by recommendations from several consumer advocacy groups and health agencies to help shoppers make informed choices.

The rationale was that most people perceived the USDA Good grading as mediocre or undesirable when compared to the prime or choice grades. Most grocery stores did not label meats as "good" for this reason. Some stores have marketed the USDA Good beef (now select) under their own "lean" brand name for some time. Whatever the name, the USDA Select grade is lowest in fat and calories.

On the other hand, USDA Prime beef is highly marbled and averages about 30 percent more fat than select beef. Experts say corn-fed prime beef is juicier and easier to chew than beef fed on grasses.

Top round, eye of round, round tip, sirloin, top loin and tenderloin are the six leanest cuts. The American Heart Association recommends limiting meat, poultry and fish consumption to no more than six ounces per day. For more information regarding AHA recommendations, call 45-HEART.

The following recipe is delicious and perfect for the first outdoor grilling of the season.

Beef kabobs

1 cup red wine
1 cup sherry
1 tsp. soy sauce
1 tsp. sesame hot oil
1 tsp. freshly ground ginger
1 cup pineapple juice
1 tsp. thyme
1 tsp. rosemary
1 cup Worcestershire sauce
1 onion, finely chopped
1 tsp. pepper

1 1/2 lb. sirloin, cut in cubes
3 tomatoes, cut in eighths if large, or whole cherry tomatoes
3 onions, cut in 1 inch wedges, or small whole boiling onions
12 whole mushrooms
1 small eggplant, peeled, chopped in 1 inch pieces
1 green pepper, cut in large cubes
12 small whole potatoes, cooked or canned

Make marinade by mixing wine, sherry, soy oil, ginger, pineapple juice, thyme, rosemary, Worcestershire, onion and pepper. Pour over meat. Let stand 2 hours at room temperature or overnight in refrigerator. Alternate beef on skewers with vegetables. Broil 3 inches from heat about 15 minutes, or grill over charcoal, turning frequently and basting with marinade.

Yields 8 servings. Each provides about 163 calories, 1.5 gm. fat, 90 mg. sodium and 37 mg. cholesterol.



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CCA NEWSLETTER #6

Dear CCAs:

Let's go directly to the top twelve money earning groups from the Small Organization's tally of May 5th!

- TOURETTE SYNDROME
- ZION LUTHERAN MARY MARTHA GUILD
- CORINTHIAN WOMEN'S SOCIETY
- DYSTONIA FOUNDATION
- COMMUNITY COMMITMENT FOR SURVIVAL
- BURNS RECOVERED SUPPORT GROUP
- LITTLE DEVILS
- BETA SIGMA PSI MOTHERS' CLUB
- SUGAR CREEK SWIM TEAM
- MILL HILL MARRIED MEN'S CLUB
- I.T.E. INC.
- T.O.P.S.

Additional congratulations are in order for our 13th, 14th and 15th place groups: BROWNE TROOP 7707, CAHOKIA RAINBOW GIRLS and our CHAIRPERSONS OF THE WEEK also deserve a tip of our CCA cap for a job well done. They are JUDY OTTE (Cub Pack 64), PAULINE MCALL (Cub Pack 235), HELEN ABBOTT (Beta Chapter PTO) and MARILYN NAST (Volunteers in Action)!

MAY IS A BIG MONTH! Included here is a recap of those NEWSLETTER BONUSSES valid on the remaining May tallies!

ALEXIAN BROTHERS. Make an appointment for yourself (or a group of folks) to have your hearing tested. Ask for your CCA Bonus Slip and earn 2500 points for each initial hearing screening. (They're free of charge!) Call 665-3333 ext. 2791.

ALWAYS FEMININE PRODUCTS. In addition to your CCA points (600 points per label), earn 300 NEWSLETTER BONUS points for any ALWAYS label tallied the rest of the month.

BOUNTY PAPER TOWELS. Wherever you buy BOUNTY... save the labels! Your group can only earn points if the labels are turned in. Don't forget you earn an extra 200 NEWSLETTER BONUS points for every BOUNTY PAPER TOWEL label tallied the rest of this month.

BOUNCE FABRIC SOFTENER. This NEWSLETTER BONUS is also valid May only. Earn 300 additional points for any size BOUNCE label turned in. Points are ordered on all sizes!

CPH PHOTO FINISH. With weddings, graduations and holiday weekends upcoming, this is a big picture taking time. BE SMART! Buy FUJI FILM and have your pictures developed at CPH PHOTO FINISH. (Enlargements make nice gifts and are worth 2500 bonus points each!) Remember to take advantage of the CPH SUMMER STOCK UP FILM SALE going on now through June 11th.

FAMOUS BARS. The NEWSLETTER BONUS here for the rest of the month is 100 extra points per dollar on all receipts, cash or charge!

FLANAGAN PAINT & WALL PAPER CENTERS. FLANAGAN has 7 conveniently located stores in the St. Louis area with a complete line of wallpaperings and a friendly FLANAGAN expert to help you. In addition to your CCA points (and bonuses on in stock purchases), your group will earn an extra 300 points per dollar for every receipt tallied the rest of this month!

FOLGERS COFFEE. Turn-in the labels from FOLGERS BRICK COFFEE (regular or decaffeinated) and earn 500 NEWSLETTER BONUS points this month. This is only valid in May! Why not simply transfer the coffee from the bag (which is how the brick coffee is packaged) to a jar, so you can turn the label in? It's worth the effort to get the points!

FUJI FILM. Earn 200 points for any FUJI FILM box turned in the rest of May. Also, if you have two or three packs of film, count them for double and triple points!

LANDMARK BANKS. Earn CCA points for opening these specific accounts: CHECKING, SAVINGS, SUPER MONEY or MONEY MARKET and NEW CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT. Join BANCOCUB or take out an AUTO LOAN and you'll also earn points! Check pages 28 and 29 in your Buyer's Guide, or call me for more information!

METRO LIGHTING. Metro Lighting's CASABLANCA TRUCKLOAD SALE begins May 15th and continues through May 21st. Take advantage of 50% off (and more!) on all Casablanca Ceiling Fans. With this NEWSLETTER BONUS you can earn 7000 bonus points for every METRO LIGHTING receipt tallied through the end of June. PLUS Double Bonus points for every Casablanca purchase dated MAY 15 through 21. In addition, METRO LIGHTING features this special... on your choice 50" or 52" 4 or 5 blade in snow white or traditional brown, 3 speed, reversible ceiling fans for only \$159.00! Shop Metro, especially during this great sale!

MAUI'S BARBECUE. Remember, every AMERICAN CLASSIC label tallied in May is worth 100 NEWSLETTER BONUS points in addition to the 700 points offered in the Buyer's Guide. Try all three unique flavors... Mild Homestyle, Tangy Southern and Smoky Western.

POST CEREAL. Any POST CEREAL label is worth points! And during MAY, each earns 200 extra points.

PRINGLE'S POTATO CHIPS. Now's the perfect time to use the coupon for 50¢ off any two Pringle's! You can find these coupons on the special Coke "SAVE AND WIN" 12 Pack!

PRAIRIE FARMS. All PRAIRIE FARMS products earn points with CCA, so turn those labels in! Also, check your newspaper for the cents-off coupon on PRAIRIE FARMS COTTAGE CHEESE!

SPARKLE GLASS CLEANER. May is the month for this NEWSLETTER BONUS... earn 500 additional points for every SPARKLE GLASS label tallied! You can find it at your grocer, or at VENTURE!

VENTURE. Speaking of VENTURE... now's the time for your SUMMER ON SALE! Save on everything you'll need like picnic accessories, swimwear, sporting goods, sunglasses and lots more. If it's for Summer, it's on sale this week at VENTURE! Save your cash and change receipts!

WEBER CHEVROLET. A reminder that WEBER CHEVROLET offers a NEWSLETTER BONUS of 250,000 points for any TRUCK PURCHASED in May. (The receipts do not have to be tallied in May, as long as the purchase was in May!)

A final note... with the holiday weekend upcoming, it pays to shop with our CCA sponsors in mind. Ketschmer Meats, Maule's and Pringle's especially should be on your list! Remember that wherever you buy our "labeled" sponsors (ALWAYS, BOUNTY, BOUNCE, FOLGERS, FUJI, KRECHMAR, MAUI'S, POST, PRAIRIE FARMS, SPARKLE GLASS CLEANER and TOMSTONE PIZZA), you can save the labels for points!

Viki Pimental
CCA Director

Indulge in chocolate desserts without paying guilty penance

A chocolate dessert is one of life's pleasures. Justifying its calories may be the big question. Emerging are two camps. One prefers a light and airy dessert. The other favors small portions of a rich and indulgent chocolate treat.

Even the most indulgent chocolate lovers—those torn between calorie counting and splurging—can enjoy lighter chocolate desserts or the very richest by watching ingredients.

Using cocoa is one of the tricks of the light set. Cocoa is pure chocolate with most of the fat removed. This means it is very suitable for lighter recipes like Soufflé and Rum Soufflé.

Soufflés are of two types, baked and unbaked. Both have stiffly beaten egg whites to create a soufflé-like texture. This unbaked one is made with gelatin and thoroughly chilled so there is no danger of it falling. Serve this light and satisfying dessert with fresh fruit because the slight hint of tartness enhances chocolate's depth of flavor.

For those who like rich sweets, cocoa also provides a concentrated form of chocolate flavor so it makes a rich, fudgy dessert like Best-Ever Chocolate Cheesecake. Cheesecake as an ultimate dessert is irresistible when it is chocolate flavored. It has a crunchy chocolate crust and a creamy filling. Serve small wedges with fresh fruit for a seasonal touch.

Cocoa rum soufflé

- 2 envelopes unflavored gelatin
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup cocoa
- 2 1/2 cups milk
- 4 eggs, separated
- 1/2 cup rum, or 1/4 cup milk and 1/4 tsp. rum extract
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup chilled whipping cream

Rum Whipped Cream, if desired. In medium saucepan, combine gelatin, 1/2 cup sugar and cocoa. Add milk and egg yolks. Beat with fork until blended. Let stand 2 minutes for gelatin to soften.

Stir over medium heat until gelatin is completely dissolved and mixture coats a metal spoon. Do not boil. Remove from heat. Pour into large bowl. Stir in rum and vanilla. Chill, stirring occasionally, until mixture mounds slightly when dropped from spoon. Meanwhile, measure length of aluminum foil to fit around 8-ounce souffle dish. Fold thirds lengthwise. Lightly oil one side of collar. Tape foil, oiled side in, securely to outside of dish, allowing collar to extend 3 inches above rim of dish. Set aside.

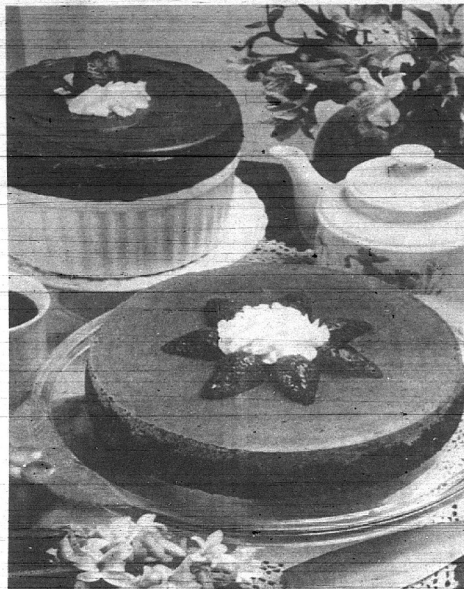
In small mixer bowl, whip cream until stiff. Fold into chocolate mixture. In large mixer bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Gradually add 1/4 cup sugar, beating until stiff peaks form. Fold into chocolate mixture.

Spoon into prepared dish. Chill until firm, 4 to 5 hours.

Before serving, remove foil collar. Garnish with Rum Whipped Cream. Makes 8 servings.

Best-ever chocolate cheesecake

- Chocolate Crumb Crust
- 3 pkg. (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup cocoa



WHETHER A chocolate soufflé or cheesecake, keeping portion sizes small satisfies a sweet tooth without causing guilt.

- 1/2 cup dairy sour cream
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 2 tsp. flour
- 3 eggs
- Sliced sweetened strawberries
- Sweetened whipped cream or topping

Prepare Chocolate Crumb Crust. Set aside. In large mixer bowl, combine cream cheese, sugar, cocoa, sour cream and vanilla. Beat on medium speed until smooth. Add flour and eggs. Beat well.

Pour into prepared crust. Bake at 450° for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 250° and continue baking 30 minutes. Cheesecake may appear unset in middle.

Turn off oven. Allow cheesecake to remain in oven 30 minutes without opening door. Remove from oven. Loosen cake from rim of pan. Cool completely. Chill thoroughly. Garnish with strawberries and whipped cream or topping. Makes 12 to 14 servings.

Chocolate Crumb Crust: In small bowl, combine 1 1/2 cups vanilla wafer crumbs (about 40 wafers), 1/2 cup confectioner's sugar and 1/2 cup cocoa. Blend in 1/4 cup melted butter or margarine. Press mixture on bottom and 1/2 inch up side of 9-inch springform pan. Bake 8 to 10 minutes at 350°. Cool.

Crispy mallow nests

- 3 tbsp. butter or margarine
- 3 cups miniature marshmallows
- 1 can (5 oz.) chow mein noodles (about 3 cups)
- Color-coated peanut chocolate candies

In medium saucepan, combine butter and marshmallows. Stir over low heat until smooth. Stir in noodles, mixing gently to coat. Drop noodle mixture by rounded tablespoonfuls onto greased cookie sheet. Shape with greased fingers to form nests. Press 3 or 4 peanut candies into center of each nest. Let stand until firm. Makes 10 to 12 nests.

Microwave golden apple streusel

- 4 (about 1 1/2 lb.) golden delicious apples, cored, sliced (See Note)
- 2 cup. lemon juice
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 tsp. mace
- 2 tbsp. butter or margarine

- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup shredded coconut
- Half-and-half or cream

Toss apples with lemon juice. Layer in 9-inch round baking dish. Blend flour, sugar, cinnamon, mace and butter with pastry blender or fork. Add walnuts and coconut. Mix well. Sprinkle evenly over apples. Microwave at high 12 to 14 minutes, rotating dish.

one-quarter turn every 5 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes. Serve with half-and-half. Makes 6 servings.

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Avocados catching on in St. Louis area

By Janice Denham
Food editor

Steffie Miller is out to prove that avocados are "consumer friendly," just like these cute green ones shown in ads wearing aprons, sweat bands and chef's hats.

Miller said St. Louis area shoppers buy an average of 9,218 avocados each day.

Of course, middle America is not as experienced in using avocados as Californians are because they are near the source.

So Midwesterners are catching up and learning to use avocados not only for guacamole, but also in omelets, appetizers, main dishes and salads.

This month begins the plentiful time for the Hass variety, which comprises three-fourths of the California avocado crop.

"You recognize (Hass) by its thick pebbly skin," Miller says. "The supply will be good. The quality of the fruit will be good. Consumers should keep their eyes open for special promotions for ripe ones."

Ripeness is a certainty by color and texture. "It yields to pressure when you squeeze it in your hand," Miller says. "When it is ripe it also turns color from green to kind of purplish-black."

The quickest way to use those ripe avocados is to simply slice them in salad or onto a sandwich.

To prepare an avocado, cut it in half lengthwise around the seed. Rotate the halves to separate them.

The seed can be removed by gently slipping the tip of a spoon under it and lifting it out, or carefully embedding the blade of a knife in the seed and lifting it out by rotating the knife.

The skin can be peeled with fingers or a knife. A sprinkling of lemon or lime juice on the avocado's flesh prevents discoloration.

Avocados should be thought of as a fruit, even though they often are used like a vegetable.

in salads. They contain lots of vitamin A and potassium.

They can be cubed with other fruits for kabobs, wrapped with ham slices for appetizers or eaten with a squeeze of lemon juice on a half-shell.

Here are two ideas using avocados, one a bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwich deluxe, the other an omelet supreme.

West Coast BLT

- 1 lb. bacon
- 6 croissants
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup thousand island dressing
- 6 lettuce leaves
- 1 pkg. (6 oz.) chicken breast slices
- 2 tomatoes, sliced

2 ripe avocados, seeded, peeled, sliced

Fry bacon until crisp. Drain. Set aside.

Split each croissant in half lengthwise. Mix mayonnaise and thousand island dressing in small bowl. Spread each cut side of croissants with mayonnaise mixture.

On bottom croissant half, layer lettuce leaf, chicken breast slice, 2 tomato slices, 2 strips bacon and 4 avocado slices. Replace croissant top.

Makes 6 sandwiches.

Any time omelet

4 eggs, lightly beaten

1/2 cup milk

1 tbs. oil

1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese

1 tbs. sliced green onion

1/2 cup chopped red bell pepper

1 ripe avocado, seeded, peeled, cubed

Mix eggs and milk in medium bowl.

Heat oil in large skillet over medium-low heat. Pour egg mixture in skillet. Cook eggs until top is almost set.

Sprinkle with cheese and green onion. Cook until cheese melts, about 2 minutes. Top with red pepper and avocado pieces. Fold over. Serve immediately.

Makes 1 large omelet.

Lightweight yogurt fruit dip

- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) low calorie cream cheese or naufchatel cheese, softened
- 1 cup plain low-fat yogurt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. grated lemon rind
- 14 packets aspartame sweetener

Combine cream cheese and yogurt. Blend until smooth. Stir in vanilla and sweetener. Chill.

Serve with fresh fruit like strawberries and melon. Makes 2 cups or 8 servings of 4 tablespoons each, 100 calories each.

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Curry bean dip

- 1 can (16 oz.) pork and beans
- 1 tbs. butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
- 1 tsp. curry powder
- 1/2 cup sliced green onions
- 1 tbs. chopped chutney

In medium bowl, with fork coarsely mash beans. Set aside.

In small saucepan over low heat, in hot butter cook green pepper with curry until green pepper is tender.

Stir in beans, onions and chutney. Heat through, stirring occasionally.

Serve with pita bread, cut in triangles and toasted, for dipping. Makes 2 cups.

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Rediscover crispy apples and tempting applesauce

Seasons affect clothing, moods and even foods. Now is a good season for fresh sauces, and applesauce is an old standby that is being rediscovered because of its convenience, taste and wholesomeness.

Applesauce can be as elegant as any mousse in glass or crystal party dishes, garnished with a parsley sprig, cinnamon or even a spring flower.

Serve applesauce either at room temperature or chilled. Applesauce makes a tasty dipping sauce for crisp asparagus or petite carrots. This versatile sauce also serves as a delicious substitute for butter or mayonnaise when used on grilled cheese or turkey sandwiches.

Just as herbed and flavored butters are fashionable these days, so too is applesauce, flavored with strawberry or raspberry puree, blueberries, raisins or brown sugar.

Some parts of the country traditionally douse pancakes with a mixture of applesauce and maple syrup. Applesauce also is used commonly as a base for barbecue sauce by adding lemon juice and tomato sauce and brush on chicken.

What health statistics leave out is how versatile applesauce can be. Here are some ways to prove it.

Applesauce Cake is from "Apples, Apples, Apples" by Comfort and Chute (Doubleday). The other recipes are from the International Apple Institute.

Hot potato salad

- 1 pkg. (4 serving) scalloped potatoes
- 1 cup diced bacon
- 1/2 cup chopped green onion
- 2 1/2 cups water
- 1 tbs. sugar
- 1 tbs. thyme or rosemary
- 1/2 cup vinegar

Fresh parsley for garnish

In large skillet, fry bacon until crisp.

Remove bacon and set aside. Add onion to bacon drippings. Sauté 2 minutes.

Add water, potatoes, packet of sauce mix, sugar and thyme, mix until sauce is smooth. Bring to boil. Cover. Simmer 25 minutes or until potatoes are tender.

Carefully stir in vinegar and reserved bacon.

Serve warm, garnished with parsley.

Makes 6 servings.

Microwave directions: Place bacon in microwave-safe casserole. Cover and microwave on high 3 minutes, stirring after 2 minutes.

Remove bacon and set aside. Stir onion into bacon drippings. Cover and microwave 1 minute.

Add water, increasing amount to 3 cups. Cover and microwave on high 5 to 6 minutes or until boiling.

Stir in potatoes, sauce mix, sugar and herbs, stirring until sauce is smooth. Cover and microwave on high 20 minutes or until potatoes are tender, stirring after 5 minutes.

Carefully stir in vinegar and reserved bacon.

Main dish variation: Follow recipe above, omitting bacon. Sauté onions in 2 tablespoons oil. Five minutes before potatoes are done, stir in 1/2 pound sliced cooked sausages or wieners.

Makes 4 servings.

Applesauce cake

- 8 oz. black walnuts, chopped, dredged in flour
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 tbs. cinnamon
- 1 tbs. nutmeg
- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 2 tbs. baking soda
- 1 pinch salt
- 2 cups applesauce

Cream butter and sugar at medium speed of mixer.

Heat applesauce until warm.

Add baking soda. Add applesauce mixture to sugar and butter mixture. Then add combined flour, salt, nutmeg and cinnamon. Mix well. Add nuts.

Pour into greased and floured 9-inch tube pan. Bake at 350° for 50 minutes.

Serves 12 to 16.

Applesauce icing: Beat 2 tablespoons butter, 1/4 cup chunky unsweetened applesauce and 1 teaspoon undiluted apple juice concentrate, vanilla, or apple brandy in medium bowl until blended. Beat in 2 cups confectioner's sugar until smooth. Add more sugar if stiff icing is preferred. Yields 1 cup.

Applesauce meatballs

- 1 lb. finely ground lean beef
- 1 lb. ground pork
- 1 cup fine soft bread crumbs
- 1 egg
- 1 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 2 tbs. grated onion
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. pepper
- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup water

Combine beef, pork, bread

crumbs, egg, applesauce, onion, salt and pepper. Mix lightly.

Form into 2-inch balls. Brown in hot oil.

Place browned meatballs in baking dish. Combine ketchup and water. Pour over meatballs. Cover. Bake at 350° for 1 1/2 hours.

Serve hot.

Makes 4 servings.

Spicy applesauce

- 8 apples
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 Strip of lemon or lime peel
- 1 (2 inch) stick cinnamon
- 3 allspice berries (1 tsp. ground)
- 8 whole cloves
- 1/2 cup sugar (about)

Core apples. Cut in eighths. Do not peel. Add water, lemon peel, cinnamon, allspice and cloves. Simmer about 15 minutes, or until soft.

Press through food mill or sieve. Add sugar 2 tablespoons at a time, tasting after each addition. Chill.

Makes about 4 cups.

Applesauce ambrosia

- 1 can (1 lb.) applesauce
- 2 bananas, sliced
- 1 can (11 oz.) mandarin oranges
- 1/2 cup sliced roast almonds
- 1/2 cup flaked coconut
- Whipped cream

Combine applesauce, bananas, oranges, almonds and coconut. Chill.

Serve in dessert glasses topped with whipped cream.

Makes 6 servings

Fish and asparagus rolls for microwave

- 1 lb. fresh asparagus or 1 (10 oz.) pkg. frozen spears
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced, or 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 2 medium tomatoes, peeled, cut up (1 cup)
- 1/2 cup celery
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1 tbs. snipped fresh parsley or 1 tsp. dried parsley
- 1/2 tsp. pepper
- 1/2 cup sliced fresh mushrooms
- 4 sole, flounder or other white fish filets, 1/2 inch thick (1 lb.), thawed if necessary
- Fresh parsley, if desired

Cut fresh asparagus in 6-inch spears. Place spears in microwave-safe dish. Sprinkle with 2 tablespoons water. Cover with plastic wrap. Vent by slitting wrap with knife. Microwave on high 4 to 6 minutes, or until barely tender, rearranging spears after 2 minutes. Or cook frozen asparagus according to package directions.

Place onion and garlic in 8-inch square microwave-safe dish. Cover with plastic wrap and vent.

Microwave on high 2 to 3 minutes until soft and opaque. Stir in tomatoes, celery, wine, parsley, basil and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Cook, covered, on high 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in mushrooms.

Roll fish around asparagus spears. Secure with wooden toothpicks. Sprinkle fish with remaining pepper. Place rolls on top of tomato mixture. Cover and vent.

Cook on high power 6 to 8 minutes, rotating dish half turn after 3 minutes, until fish flakes easily when tested with fork.

Transfer fish to serving platter. Cover to keep warm.

Return tomato mixture to oven. Microwave on high 3 to 4 minutes until sauce thickens slightly. Spoon sauce over fish to serve.

Garnish with fresh parsley, if desired.

Makes 4 servings; 165 calories, 113 gm. protein, 9 gm. fat, 75 mg. cholesterol, 43 gm. carbohydrate and 95 mg. sodium each.

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Action urged on minority students

SPRINGFIELD — There is a critical need to increase the number of minority students graduating from high school and college.

That is the belief of the Joint Committee on Minority Student Achievement. Its final recommendations call for lawmakers and educators to take immediate action to improve the academic achievement of Illinois' minority students.

The Joint Committee's report, "Our Future At Risk," was presented during a Planning and Policy Committee meeting of the State Board of Education. The committee's work focused on the need to enhance minority student achievement and the recruitment and retention of minority educators.

"We cannot afford to wait until tomorrow to act on the issue of minority student achievement. Calling for immediate action is not only morally right but economically essential to the future of this state," Jacques Atkins, State Board member and chair of the Joint Committee, said.

Created by the State Board of Education and the Board of Higher Education, the Joint Committee is composed of persons from business, civic and education communities. The report calls for the State Board of Education and the Board of Higher Education to develop a specific plan for implementing the following action:

- Make minority student achievement a priority in Illinois.
- Provide support programs early and throughout education.
- Promote change in the school/campus environment for minority students.
- Promote increases in the employment of minority teaching and administrative personnel.
- Monitor programs and student progress closely.

"As a result of the school-improvement measures enacted by lawmakers in 1985, minority programs have been established to address the needs of students who are at risk of academic failure. Full implementation of these programs, however, has not been achieved because of a lack of adequate funding from the state. A bleak future exists for these programs if Illinois fails to enact a tax increase for education," Atkins said.

Of the state's 1.8 million K-12 (kindergarten through 12th grade) public school students, 33 out of every 100 are from minorities. Attrition rates show that 43 of every 100 black students and 46 of every 100 Hispanic students who entered ninth grade in 1983 did not graduate in 1987. For white students, 15 of every 100 students who entered ninth grade in 1983 did not graduate in 1987.

In higher education, minority students number only 12 out of every 100 students who obtain bachelor's degrees. This figure drops to 11 minority students for every 100 students enrolled in graduate or professional education programs.

"The number of minority students in our schools has been growing steadily and will continue to grow. But the proportions of minority students at each successive level of education, from elementary through graduate education, decrease severely," the report said.

"A continual decline in the number of people prepared to work in tomorrow's job markets will have a tremendous impact on the success of this state," Atkins said.

Based on data gathered for the report, between now and 1995 Illinois expects to average about 267,000 new jobs a year.

Of these new jobs, 57 of every 100 jobs may require a high school diploma and another 35 of every 100 may require some level of college education.

According to the report, blacks and Hispanics have consistently scored lower than their white counterparts. "In 1987, white students in Illinois had an average American College Test (ACT) score of 20.4 out of a possible total score of 36, and Asian students had an average score of 20.4. Hispanic students averaged 19, and black students averaged 13.5."

Members of the Joint Committee believe that the improvement of minority student achievement is a two-way street involving students and educators.

Because many minority students enter school with significant disadvantages, the report explained, educators may unconsciously lower their expectations of student performance.

"The answer is not to lower expectations and standards, but to ensure that minority children are given whatever assistance is necessary for them to meet those standards in the same proportions as majority students," the report asserts.

It also calls for a need for school districts and institutions of higher education to increase their efforts at recruiting and hiring minority administrators and teachers.

"Currently, minority administrators represent only one out of every 100 administrators, and minority teachers number 15 out of every 100 elementary and secondary teachers, far less than 33 minority students out of every 100 students," the report adds.

Based on data for higher education, the report noted that minorities numbered only five out of every 100 top administrators in colleges and universities and 10 out of every 100 tenured faculty members.

Members of the Joint Committee believe that an increase in the number of minority teachers and administrators would help to encourage minority students to succeed in school.

Courtesy of the actions proposed for the State Board of Education and the Board of Higher Education, the Joint Committee said, "It is the duty of the governor, Legislators, local school board members, corporate leaders, community organizers, parents and voters... must realize that the educational attainment of minorities affects the well-being of everyone in the state."

The Joint Committee recommends that it reconvene within a year to review progress in improving minority student achievement in Illinois. The State Education Board's Planning and Policy Committee endorsed the Joint Committee's recommendations and forwarded them to the full board.

Renew exemption for blind, elderly, seniors demand

SPRINGFIELD — Senior citizens groups April 13 demanded that a \$1,000 state income tax exemption for the elderly and blind be restored.

"Eliminating the exemption resulted in a 'backdoor' \$19 million tax increase, they charged."

The president of the Chicago-based Illinois State Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations also ripped Gov. James Thompson for vetoing programs for the elderly that cost less than the \$19 million.

Gerald Prete suggested seniors would be "stupid" now if they backed the governor's plan to increase in the state income tax.

"We are resentful that Gov. Thompson used his veto power viciously in order to bludgeon us into support of higher taxes, never bothering to acknowledge the 'backdoor' increase," Prete added.

Last spring accountant Tom Crowder, who prepares tax returns for many area elderly clients, was one of those urging legislators to restore the exemption, which disappeared for 1987 as a result of the federal "tax reform act" passed in 1986.

He criticized the state for accepting the extra tax revenue "in a roundabout way."

The Illinois Department of Revenue has reported that many senior citizens continued to claim the extra \$1,000 exemption on their returns for 1987 and have been notified they must either pay more or the extra amount will be deducted from their refunds.

At the state individual income tax rate of 2.5 percent, elimination of the exemption results in a \$25 tax increase.

Prete said 22 other states still allow the exemption despite the federal change.

Government would fund only one extension of Metro Link

By Buck Collier

Staff affiliate
Of four possible extensions of the proposed light-rail system, Metro Link, only one would be approved for funding by federal officials, according to a planner with the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council.

Joseph Marking, a transportation planner with the agency, told the council's Board of Directors on April 27 that further analysis will be made on the four potential extensions — one in Illinois and three in Missouri — but that officials of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration have said funding would be available for only one extension.

Marking said an extension might involve the use of buses or vans, called "high-occupancy vehicles," rather than light rail.

His update on the study of a possible extension of Metro Link during a meeting in which the council's directors endorsed a funding request to begin work on the initial 18-mile rail line, stretching from East St. Louis to Lambert-St. Louis International Airport.

The request is for \$89,799,000 from the federal government. Local assets valued at \$29,933,000 would include the Eads Bridge and existing rail lines, would be used as a one-third match for the federal money.

The request is being made by the Bi-State Development Agency, which would operate Metro Link.

The total cost of Metro Link is estimated to be \$384 million; the U.S. would provide \$288 million, with the local match being in the form of fixed assets.

Four possible extensions, or "corridors," remain from eight originally considered. Marking said, Half of those were eliminated either by a lack of funds or the potential cost to obtain right-of-way to the land necessary for development.

Corridors still under consideration would run from:
• East St. Louis to Blyville.
• Downtown to the Jefferson County line, but not into Jefferson County as originally thought.
• Barnes Hospital to Chesterfield Mall.

Lambert Airport to Mid-Rivers Mall in St. Charles County.
"Obviously, the one to St. Charles County would handle the (Blanchette Memorial) bridge traffic," Marking said. "It would be ideal if we could get them all, but right now the feds won't allow that."

Marking said cost would be a major factor if the extension line the least expensive.

He said the cost of a light-rail extension would be about the same as the initial 18-mile section of Metro Link — \$14 million to \$15 million a mile.

The technical work on the extension study should be finished by the end of June, Marking said. The detailed study would begin then, he said.

Tips for summer job seekers

The nation's positive economic picture is creating an increasing number and variety of opportunities for summer job seekers, including college students and teachers.

"But even with the favorable odds, students and others looking for summer work will have to use some resourcefulness and initiative to make the most of those opportunities," said Mitchell S. Fromstein, president and chief executive of a firm which expects to fill about 100,000 temporary job openings this summer.

He offered some tips for summer job seekers:

1. Be persistent. Don't be discouraged if you haven't lined up a summer job yet. Many firms haven't completed their hiring.
2. Explore all potential job sources: Newspaper ads are a good source of job leads, but not the only source. Ask relatives, teachers and friends to call major firms and inquire about openings; contact temporary-help service firms; check with local government job service offices.
3. Contact your former employers: Firms like to bring back former workers who understand how their business oper-

ates, minimizing training requirements.

4. Understand your marketable skills: Students often underestimate their skills. Consider your educational assets such as computer literacy, language, keyboard, research and communication experience. And remember that students are accustomed to learning new skills quickly.

5. Look for learning opportunities: Present yourself as someone eager to learn; you may land a job where you can develop skills in word processing, computer operation or general business practices.

6. Have proper legal identification: This year, you may have a passport, Social Security card or pictured driver license to prove citizenship under the immigration law. Lack of identification will delay your job search.

7. Make commitments and keep them: Employers want assurance that you will hang in for the duration of a summer job, not disappear after a month. Replacing workers is costly and difficult for businesses. Leaving an employer in the lurch could destroy your valuable contacts.

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Blood pressure to be tested

Free blood pressure testing is being offered here in connection with High Blood Pressure Month.

"It does not matter if you are young or old, male or female, fat or thin, calm or easily upset — you could have high blood pressure," said Pat Davis, St. Elizabeth Medical Center associate-health nurse.

"Nearly 3.5 million in Illinois have an increased risk of illness and death due to hypertension (high blood pressure). One million are not aware of their condition, and another 600,000 are aware of it but not controlling it. High blood pressure if left untreated, can lead to heart attack, stroke or kidney disease."

"May has been proclaimed High Blood Pressure Month in Illinois. St. Elizabeth Medical Center will provide free blood pressure testing every Tuesday outside of Reese Drug Store in the hospital, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m."

"High blood pressure is often called the silent killer. Many who have it notice no symptoms and feel fine during the early stages. It can be easily treated if detected early. However, it can damage arteries, the heart, brain, eyes and kidneys if untreated. The higher your blood pressure, the shorter your life expectancy."

"Anyone can have high blood pressure," Davis said, "but it tends to run in families and is more common among men. Women may develop hypertension while pregnant or taking birth control pills. Blacks are twice as prone to high blood pressure. People who are short

and heavy or overweight are also in greater danger."

Possible symptoms of high blood pressure are: breathlessness; nosebleeds with no apparent cause; severe localized headaches that occur early in the morning and are accompanied by nausea; and dizziness.

"These symptoms do not mean you have hypertension," Davis said, "but if you have experienced them, have your blood pressure checked."

"Your blood pressure reading will have two numbers, 120/80 for example. The top number is the systolic pressure. This is the measure of the blood flowing in your artery as your heart beats. The bottom number is the diastolic pressure. This is the force of blood while your heart is resting."

Generally, a reading of 120/80 is within a normal range. Over 160/95 indicates high blood pressure. This varies depending on age and health condition. Blood pressure may also vary during the day, depending on how active one has been.

Davis said, "High blood pressure is treated through a number of ways. Stopping smoking, weight reduction, exercise and relaxation may help."

"In some cases, reducing salt, caffeine and fat in the diet, or taking medication may be necessary. Only your doctor can tell you which is right for you."

"It is necessary to continue taking medication or practicing whatever techniques you use to control your blood pressure, even if you feel good. Hypertension may have no symptoms, but it can be deadly."

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GCC could be losing basketball, volleyball

By Dave Whaley
Executive sports editor

GRANITE CITY — A BAC board of trustees vote tonight could signal the end of men's basketball and women's volleyball at Granite City Campus.

A proposal is being considered to have only one charter for BAC. That would mean the college — which has campuses in Belleville, Granite City and Red Bud — would have one varsity team per sport for all three campuses.

If that is voted on, it would eliminate men's basketball and women's volleyball at GCC, since the Belleville campus has teams in those sports. Soccer and wrestling — two sports not currently offered at the Belleville campus — would continue, although they could be moved from Granite City to Belleville.

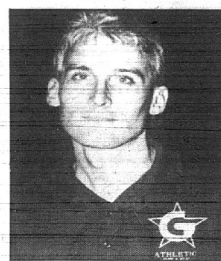
There are no varsity sports centered at the Red Bud campus. GCC athletic director and men's basketball coach Terry Collins has mixed feelings about the proposed change.

"The logic behind it is certainly reasonable," he said. "The money allocated to the Granite City campus for athletics is not adequate when compared to what is allocated in Belleville. If they don't want to spend the money or they don't have the money to spend, it makes sense to do this."

Collins was one of a six-person committee appointed to look into the move. He was joined by Lee Knoebel, dean at GCC; Valerie Thaxton, dean of students at GCC; Dr. Weldon Talbot, vice-president of student services; BAC basketball coach Jay Harrington; and Dr. Wayne Clark, president of BAC.

"I can't say there was only one viewpoint in our meetings," Collins said. "But there was a general consensus that this should be done. I really don't know if it will pass. It's tough to say what a board might decide. They could delay the vote if they would like to gather more information."

The seven-member board will meet tonight in Belleville. A



Terry Collins

simple majority is all that's needed to effect the change.

Collins is the director of student activities and intramurals at GCC and would be happy to continue in those functions if there is no longer basketball at the campus. He said soccer

each Larry Petri and wrestling coach Alan Grammer would like to be unaffected by the switch, as are their jobs as coaches, although those two sports could be switched to the Belleville campus.

Fary Begley is the volleyball coach at women's basketball coach at GCC, although the campus would no longer be offering women's basketball even if the change is made.

The NCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association) recently passed a rule saying athletes can attend classes at one campus and compete in a sport at another campus of the same college as long as the sport isn't offered on both campuses," Collins said. "So it's kind of ironic that this would come up at the same time."

Collins said GCC has a men's basketball budget of \$8,200 — which includes a \$3,000 salary for Collins. The men's basketball budget at BAC is \$17,000 — and the doesn't include Harrington's salary. The Dutchmen finished fourth in the NCAA national

tournament this season. The Stars were eliminated in the first round of regional competition.

"Even though the logic is good and it might be the best thing to do, I still would like to see what we could do with a program here if we had the budget to do it right," Collins said. "We could put more promotion into it and maybe get 300 or 400 people out for our games. We have sent some players on to four-year schools to play, so we have been doing something right."

The Stars have played games at the gym — formerly Granite City North High School — since the campus' inception in 1983. Games have usually been played before very sparse audiences. Collins has coached the team the last four years. Larry Graham was the coach in the inaugural season (1983-84).

"It's the decision of the board when it will take effect if they vote on it," Collins said. "But it would be better to take effect immediately. I wouldn't want to have a lame-duck program here

next year."

Collins has three players coming back next year. Granite City High School graduate Dave Vizeer, Madison High School product Otis Ware and James Gordon.

"I hope they would have the opportunity to win a spot on the team if there is one only in Belleville," Collins said. "As far as volleyball, there isn't a big number of players, and the two current teams might be able to put out one full squad."

"I still work for BAC and have been loyal. If there is an opportunity to be an assistant coach there or something else, I would consider it."

Collins is willing to make things work either way, and he doesn't feel the Granite City campus has been slighted.

"I trust our relationship with the board," Collins said. "And I have no reason to feel we've been slighted. I haven't looked into it myself, but I trust we've gotten everything the college has been able to afford."



TRACY GAUDETTE crosses the plate with a run for the Lady Warriors.

Softball tournament lasts one inning too long for LeVault, Lady Warriors

By Don Daniels
Correspondent

GRANITE CITY — Tammy LeVault and the Lady Warriors almost came away with first place in the Granite City Softball Tournament on Saturday, but the championship game lasted just one inning too long.

After knocking off Wood River 5-3 in a very tough opening game, the Lady Warriors were on the verge of victory in the finals against Roxana. The Warriors were leading 3-1 going into the seventh when disaster struck. With the tournament championship nearly in hand, the Shells came up with four

runs and Granite City was saddled with a 5-3 loss in the tournament final.

LeVault attempted to pitch Granite City to victories in both games, but her bid for the double win ended when everything caved in at the end. LeVault had allowed only four runs in the two games before the fateful seventh and ended up allowing two runs in the seventh as she avoided the loss in the second game. It was quite a performance for LeVault, especially considering that she started Saturday's tournament the morning after Granite City's May Day celebration.

"The girls played real well,"

said Granite City coach Jim Davis. "The weather was real hot, though, and we went with our older players in both games. Playing both games probably wore our girls down some. Our senior girls had the May Day celebration last night (Friday), too. They still gave 100 percent in both games. LeVault did a super job. She pitched out of any jams she got into. She had pitched 13 innings when I took her out. She just got tired."

In addition to Turner and Davenport — who are each making their third trip to state in as many years — the Trojans, Turner and seniors Sheila Marshall

Warriors put two good innings.

Knollman to state in two events

BELEVILLE — Wendy Knollman knew there were two ways to qualify for this week's state track meet in Charleston. She utilized both methods on Friday in the Belleville Class AA Sectional in qualifying in two events — the 400-meter dash and the long jump.

One way to qualify is to finish first or second. Knollman took second in the 400 with a time of 59.3 seconds — a tenth of a second below the qualifying time, but still good enough for a ticket to Charleston this weekend. Knollman placed third in the long jump with a leap of 17-6 1/2, but the IHSAA qualifying mark in that event was 17-2.

The only other Warrior who came close to qualifying was Diana Brandt in the discus. She placed fifth with a throw of

108.7, but the qualifying distance was 113-10.

It will be the second consecutive trip to state for Knollman, who took ninth in the long jump competition last May. Knollman was second to East St. Louis Lincoln's Carmelita Williams in the 400. Williams, who qualified in four events, tied a meet record with a time of 55.1 in the 400.

Cynthia Tyler of Lincoln won the long jump with a leap of 19-3 while the Tigerettes' Patrice Liddell was second at 17-4 1/2.

As usual, Lincoln dominated the meet with 131 points. Incredibly, the second-place team (Belleville West) had only 22.

(See KNOLLMAN, Page 3D)



Wendy Knollman

Trojanettes 3rd; send 8 to state

GREENVILLE — It might see like old hat to some, but the excitement is always there. Although the Madison Trojanettes didn't win the team title in Thursday's Greenville Class A Second, coach Gene Briggs will still take eight girls to the Illinois Girls State Track Meet in Champaign this weekend.

Juniors Vivian Turner and Melissa Davenport qualified as individuals while Madison qualified all four relay teams it entered while taking third place in the meet.

Clinville won the meet with 46 points and Piasa Southwestern was second with 41. The Trojanettes had 38, but of prime importance was who earned a bus ticket to Charleston.

In addition to Turner and Davenport — who are each making their third trip to state in as many years — the Trojans, Turner and seniors Sheila Marshall

and Chelsea Smith, juniors LaGloria Marshall and Sharon Browley, sophomore Shalonda Virginia and freshman Katrina Garrett.

There were six among those on the relay teams. Both Marshalls are also making their third trip to state as each was on the 400 and 800 relay teams. Smith, making her second trip, was on the 1600 relay. Browley, making her first trip, was on the 800 medley. Virginia, making her second trip, was on the 1600. And Garrett, making her first trip, was on the 400.

Madison broke three school records and tied another in the sectional. Turner's time of 12.4 seconds in the 100 tied a mark and was good enough for first in the sectional. The winning 400 relay time of 30.0 was another school record and was good for first place. The Marshalls, Turner and Garrett ran that relay.

The same four girls set a school mark with a 1:45.2 in the 800, good enough for second in the sectional and a trip to state.

The other school record was set by Davenport. Blakely with a time of 2:35.2 in the 800 meters. That was good for fifth in the sectional, however, and the qualifying time was 2:27. Davenport took second in the 400 with a time of 62.2 to qualify. The Marshalls, Browley and Davenport took second in the 800 medley with a time of 1:53.3, their best time of the year. Virginia, Smith, Turner and Davenport took second in the 1600 relay with a time of 4:18.6.

Others who just missed qualifying were Virginia, who finished third in the 100 with a time of 13.0 (12.9 was the qualifying time); and Garrett, who was third in the 200 with a time of

(See MADISON, Page 3D)

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Knollman

(Continued from Page 10)

Granite City finished with five points.

The Tigertettes, winners of six straight state titles and nine of the last 10, won every event except the high jump, which was won by Belleville East's Refayle Williams. Williams, who set a state record of 5-10 in the high jump last year, easily won the event at the sectional with a jump of 5-10.

"I feel good," Williams said. "This year, I've been over 5-8 at every meet. I made a change in my technique so I take more of a step back. It's made me more relaxed, especially at the high jumps."

I want to beat my record (at

Softball

(Continued from Page 10)

together late in the game to knock off the vastly improved Oilers, whom Granite City had beaten 16-1 in the first game of the year. Kim Pawlak singled in the fourth and Jennifer Cavness followed with a run-scoring double. Mindy Hoth reached on an error and Cavness came in to tie the game.

Kathy Lewis got a bunt hit to lead off the fifth and Tracy Gaudette followed with another bunt single. Pawlak nailed the game winner as she doubled home Lewis and Gaudette for the final 5-3 margin. Pawlak ended the day 3 for 4 in batting, while Gaudette was 2 for 3.

Granite City jumped off to a 2-0 lead in the championship game (Roxana defeated Madison in the other semi-final) when LeVault reached on an error and Hoth followed with a hard single. The Roxana fielder threw wildly on the play as LeVault and Hoth both scored. After Roxana scored a run, the Lady Warriors came back with another run on a Cavness single and a Hoth double into the gap to give Granite City a 3-1 lead. The stage was set for the seventh.

LeVault walked one batter and hit another. Davis decided to bring Pawlak in as a relief pitcher, but a walk loaded the bases. The next batter hit a ball to center field, where Carrie Bohnenstiel misjudged the fly and two runs scored. A runner was thrown out at third on the play, but the next two batters followed with RBI singles as the Shells tied the championship.

"We just haven't gotten enough timely hitting," Davis lamented. "Give Roxana credit. They had the opportunities in the final inning and they cashed in. I can't get down on our girls. They're giving 100 percent and they're young, too."

'Learn to Swim' campaign at Y

The annual YMCA "Learn to Swim" children's program, ages 6 to 12, will be held May 31 through June 3.

The program is an intense session of swim lessons designed for those non-member children who cannot swim 25 feet. Each child will attend four half-hour sessions (Tuesday through Friday).

The cost for the week is \$3 per child. Classes are limited to 15 students and registration will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will be taken in person at the YMCA, 2001 Edison Ave., Granite City.

Morning session times are 10:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m., 10:50 a.m. to 11:10 a.m., 11:10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Afternoon session times are 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"Don't wait until your child is one of this year's 7,500 drownings," said Pat Barker, executive director of the Y, who will be giving instructions along with the YMCA staff.

Additional information can be obtained by calling the YMCA at 876-7200. The YMCA is a United Way agency.

Softball tournament highlights Granitfest

A softball tournament will be held in Wilson Park as part of the Granitfest celebration.

The tournament will be June 4-5 and will be a men's and women's tournament. The double-elimination format will include trophies for the winning teams.

Send an \$80 entry fee to Alan Orth, Sr., 1204 S. Granite City, Ill. 62040, by May 27.

Raiders sponsor softball tourney

The Raiders softball team will hold a Class C & D softball tournament June 3-5 at the 3rd Street Diamond in Madison.

The entry fee is \$100. Prizes will be awarded to the top four teams (\$400 for first, \$300 for second, \$200 for third and \$100 for fourth).

For more information, call Mike at 931-5153, Jim at 451-0712 or Tim at 931-6304.

(state) and go at least 6-0. I really think I can do it."

Williams was the only winner not from Lincoln, but that's hardly surprising. Coach Nino Penney's Tigertettes have made a habit out of dominating both the sectional and the state meet. "We're right on schedule," Penney said. "The only surprise was getting a 40-foot throw (from Duncan in the shot put). You expect juniors to get better,

but when a sophomore says they can do something like that, you tell them to prove it."

Lincoln's Williams won the 100 dash (11.6), the 200 dash (24.0) and the 400 dash (55.1). She broke meet records in the 100 and the 200 in addition to tying the 400 record. She took four medals at state last year as a sophomore and could do the same this year. She is also on the 400 meter relay team.

Madison

(Continued from Page 10)

27.2 (26.8 was the qualifying time).

"We only entered four relay teams and qualified them all," said Briggs, in his first year as head coach after succeeding Luvenia Long. "So we have to be pleased with that. What we had planned on went well for us for the most part. I really thought Garrett would qualify in the 200 and she almost did. She

had a sprained ankle last week and didn't get to practice, so that hurt her. But that's nobody's fault."

The Trojanettes will be looking to defend state titles in the 400 relay and the 800 medley. "We did as well as we could in those two, so we should be tough to beat up there," Briggs said. "And our 800 time was two seconds below the old school

record. And I believe Turner has a good opportunity to place in the 100."

"I just hope the girls are half as excited as I am. We're looking forward to getting up there and getting after it."

Preliminaries at the state meet are Friday morning and the meet will conclude Saturday afternoon. The Trojanettes took sixth at last year's meet.

The Inside Story.

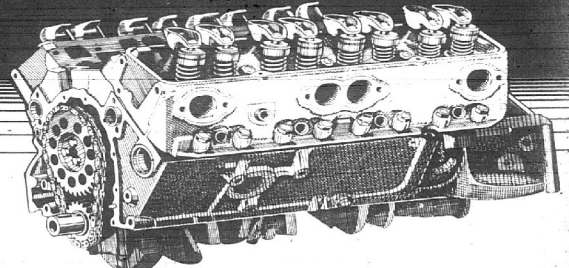
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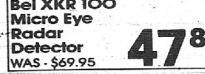
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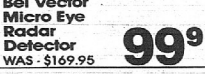
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Act fast when plant pests crash your party

By Robert J. Dingwall
Garden spot

Spring's show of color is now well under way and this year's performance has been exceptional. The vibrancy of the season's tones has been provided compliments of ample rainfall and cool nights.

But the bad news is that as happens every year, spring's flush of growth is being accompanied by the appearance of

pests and diseases. To keep them under control, homeowners need to act at the first sign of trouble. One should make it a practice to observe the garden and yard daily for signs of problems.

The best time to spray for plant pests is in the morning, when insects are most active. (Slugs are an exception to this rule, however.) Spray under the leaves, then on top. Always follow label directions exactly.

With early control, it is not necessary to spray all plants in the area, just the infected one.

If dusts are preferred, also apply in the morning, preferably when foliage is covered by dew. This will improve the material's adherence to the leaves.

Aphids are among the pests to watch for. These small, green sucking insects attack a wide range of garden and landscape plants. They damage soft, tender growth by sucking the juices

from the young leaves. Control is relatively easy; apply a forceful stream of water to dislodge them from the stem or use an insecticide according to label directions.

Slugs, which are active now, feed mainly at night and hide during the day. They have a broad range of targets, with perennials heading the list. They also feed on annuals, vegetables, ground covers and other plants. Gardeners usually become

aware of their presence by the slimy trail that they leave on plants. Slugs feed by chewing portions out of leaves and stems and may even chew into flower buds.

Liquid slug control called Slug-It is ideal and should be applied early in the evening. This material attracts slugs to the sprayed area. In the morning, dead slugs may be removed and discarded.

The sow bug or pill bug is

often noticed around decaying vegetation but also attacks the young roots of plants, causing severe damage if allowed to build up.

Plant diseases such as mildew, a powdery-looking substance, affects roses, phlox and many other plants. If left uncontrolled, it can lead to loss of foliage and flowers. Most fungicides, such as Funginex, Captan or Benlate, give good control.

Pruning maintains ornamental shrubs

Shrubs are woody plants with several stems originating at or near the ground. This group of woody ornamentals provides beauty, scale, fragrance, privacy and texture to the landscape.

Though primarily grown for flowers, many shrubs have attractive fruit, bark, foliage and autumn color. Proper selection and care can increase the pleasure and value of your shrubs.

Success with shrubs begins with good selection and placement. Many times beautiful shrubs are removed because mature size was not taken into consideration when their locations were chosen.

Consider shrubs' height, vigor, spread, sun or shade requirements and flowering characteristics before purchasing, and determine their purpose before planting. This information will help you identify the pruning technique needed to achieve the most desirable results.

Pruning is necessary to regulate shrub size, shape and thickness; promote good health; encourage good branching and establish the height at which you want flowering to take place. Decide your aims before you begin. Prune for plants' sake not for pruning's sake. Avoid excessive pruning and try to visualize the plant without the branch you are about to remove.

Pruning should be part of your regular maintenance program

for shrubs. Examine plants carefully each season. Often, shrubs receive little or no attention after initial planting. In time, these shrubs become large and woody, and lower branches become unattractive. If shrubs are simply cut back with a hedge shears on top and not thinned out, more dense upright growth develops, shading lower branches and thus causing even more dieback.

Timing of pruning varies according to what is being pruned. Light pruning, such as pinching back or removing a dead branch, can be done any time of the year. However, when a thorough job is needed, pruning is best accomplished shortly after flowering.

In addition to these very general guidelines, shrub type, slow-growing or fast-growing, must be considered. And remember too that there are some considerations for maintaining the appearance of hedges.

Slow-growing shrubs, such as azaleas, rhododendrons, blue hollies, burning bush, some viburnums and others, require only limited pruning. Rhododendrons and azaleas are sometimes pinched back after flowering to encourage a more compact growth habit. Slow-growing shrubs usually develop a main framework, hence only occasional thinning is needed to open up a dense plant so more sunlight

and air can reach its center. Dead and broken branches should be eliminated as well as a branch outgrowing the general contour of the shrub. When pruning back, cut back to another branch (a lateral) and do not leave a stub.

Fast-growing shrubs, such as forsythia, honeysuckle, spirea, mock orange, lilac and others, sprout vigorously from the base, which over time can become a tangled mess. Fast-growing shrubs need regular, fairly severe pruning to keep them attractive and under control. Many common flowering shrubs respond best to a moderate amount of annual pruning. The pruning technique begins with the removal of all dead, broken and diseased branches or canes from the shrub. Prune these back as close to the base of the plant as possible. (A lopper or small handsaw is needed for this job.)

Next, eliminate about 20 to 30 percent of the older branches (more than 3 years old). Again, cut close to the base. Crossing branches should be pruned to improve branch structure. You also may wish to prune back the top of the plant to promote a better contour.

Large, old shrubs (in the fast-growing category) that have been neglected may need to be rejuvenated. This process reduces the size of these shrubs

considerably. First, all dead canes are removed. Then, a large portion of the shrub is cut back to the base of the plant. Allow just five to seven shoots, each 1-inch or less, to remain. This may sound drastic, but it gives the shrub a fresh beginning.

Hedges, pruning shrubs or overgreens into a formal hedge requires periodic visits with a hedge shears. A formal hedge must be clipped one or more times a year to maintain shape, thickness and aesthetic appreciation.

Clip hedges so the base is wider than the top; this will allow sunlight to hit all plant surfaces and will hold up better under snow loads. A hedge is more pleasing when the base of it hugs the ground. Prune out dead branches as needed.

Pruning is a straightforward process, but if in doubt, do nothing rather than potentially harm the plant. Consult an arborist for a professional pruning job when outside help is needed.

Fertilization, insect and disease control, and mulching are other cultural practices that will ultimately improve the vigor and health of your shrub, thus increasing the beauty and pleasure you will receive for years to come.

(This article is by horticulturist Timothy Gamma of the St. Louis Arborists Association.)

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